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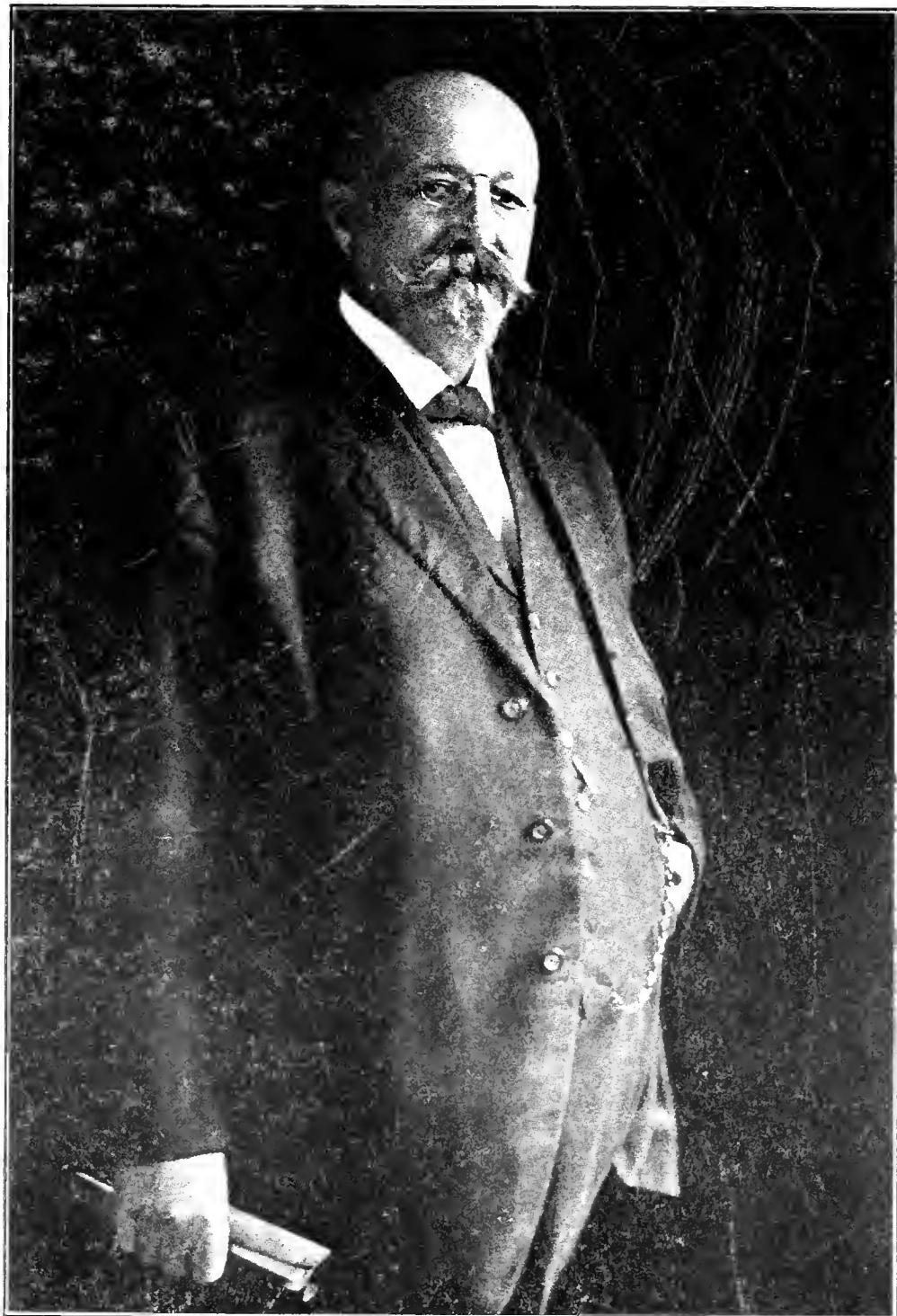
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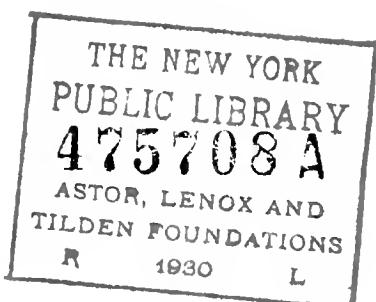
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# Foreword: The Publication Fund

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The Museum and Library of The Rochester Historical Society have been housed for years in a fireproof building at Edgerton Park (formerly Exposition Park) where all expenses of care and maintenance have been freely furnished by the city government. The Society owes a generous return of public service in appreciation, and proposes to publish an annual volume of such material as may seem best, from the large store in its archives.

To carry on these plans the Constitution of the Society has been amended to establish a Publication Fund, which will make possible the regular publication and distribution of the proceedings of the Society, papers read before it, and valuable manuscripts. This has long been the goal of the officers and managers, but hitherto the limited funds yielded by the annual memberships have been only sufficient to carry on ordinary activities, and to issue occasional publications.

To maintain the Publication Fund thus established, a class of members has been created to be known as "Publication Patrons," to consist of those who shall contribute the sum of \$10 or more annually, which payment shall constitute the donor an active member, covering annual dues, and also entitle him to a copy of all publications issued by the Society.

This fund will be used entirely for publication, the ordinary expenses being carried by the annual dues received from the other active members.

The present publication is Volume One in the Publication Fund series.

It will be followed by at least one volume, annually.

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Rochester, New York

1922—1923

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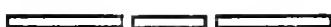
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# The Origin and Mission of The Rochester Historical Society

By EDWARD R. FOREMAN

## *The Origin:*

In 1861 Lewis Henry Morgan, "the father of American anthropology" and Rochester's most noted scientist-author, was a member of the Assembly of the state of New York. At that time he caused to be introduced and passed a special law incorporating The Rochester Historical Society, as follows:

### Chapter 258.

AN ACT to incorporate The Rochester Historical Society.

Passed April 15, 1861.

*The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:*

Section 1. Lewis H. Morgan, Lysander Farrar, Henry O'Reilly, Jarvis M. Hatch, George G. Munger, Edward A. Raymond, and their associates, who now are, and such other persons as shall hereafter become, members of the said society, are hereby created a body politic and corporate, by the name and description of "The Rochester Historical Society."

§2. The said corporation is created for the purpose of collecting and preserving historical, genealogical, scientific and literary knowledge, information and mementoes, and books, maps, charts, pamphlets, magazines, papers, and facts in any form having a connection with either of said subjects; and said corporation is authorized to make and preserve such collections, and to frame and adopt, and from time to time alter and amend such constitution and by-laws or rules for advancing their object, as a majority of the resident members at any meeting may determine.

§3. The said corporation may also rent suitable rooms or buildings for their purposes, and make and enter into leases therefor; or may purchase, take and hold real estate for the purposes aforesaid, not exceeding in value the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, and may also take and hold, by gift, grant, devise or purchase, personal property, not to exceed in value the sum of fifty thousand dollars.

§4. The location and place of business of said corporation shall be the city of Rochester, in the county of Monroe, in said state; and the property of said corporation shall be exempt from taxation or assessment therein.

§5. The said society or corporation may elect such officers, and at such time or times as it shall determine, and shall possess all the powers of an ordinary corporation; may sue and be sued for any debt or liability, and may have a common seal.

§6. The corporation hereby created shall be subject to the provisions of the act relating to wills, passed April thirteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty.

When the above law was passed the clock of destiny was striking in the Civil War and the absorbing events of the succeeding years delayed the consummation of Mr. Morgan's plan for the establishment of an historical society in his home city. To the end of his life he remained supremely interested in historical and scientific themes and gathered around him congenial spirits to discuss such subjects. But The Rochester Historical Society did not function actively as an organization.

It was not until the year 1887 that the idea was revived under the leadership of Mrs. Gilman H. Perkins.

Upon her summons a number of leading citizens gathered to discuss the proposition. Dr. Edward Mott Moore, Sr., already had been consulted and approved the general plan.

What transpired can best be told by quoting the official record appearing in our minutes in the handwriting of Mr. William F. Peck, who was the Recording Secretary of the Society for twenty years:

#### Transcript of Minutes

"A preliminary meeting was held at the residence of Mrs. Gilman H. Perkins, 219 East Avenue, December 17, 1887.

"The meeting was called to order by Frederick A. Whittlesey, who nominated Dr. Edward M. Moore as chairman of the meeting. Dr. Moore was elected, and M. W. Cooke was elected secretary of the meeting.

"Mr. Whittlesey, at the request of the hostess, stated the object of the meeting and offered the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the formation of an Historical Society in Rochester is desirable."

"The resolution, having been seconded, was generally discussed and unanimously adopted. Those present, all voting, were Dr. E. M. Moore, Henry E. Rochester, Hiram Sibley, Dr. A. C. Kendrick, Judge James L. Angle, Prof. S. A. Lattimore, T. C. Montgomery, George T. Parker, Mrs. George T. Parker, Dr. A. H. Strong, Robert Mathews, F. A. Whittlesey, Prof. W. C. Morey, H. F. Atkinson, Gilman H. Perkins, Mrs. Gilman H. Perkins and M. W. Cooke.

"Dr. Strong moved that a committee be appointed to report upon the organization of the Historical Society. Carried.

"The following were appointed as such committee: Dr. Moore, Dr. Strong, Mr. Whittlesey, Professor Morey and Mr. Cooke.

"The meeting then adjourned, subject to the call of the committee above named.

"MARTIN W. COOKE,  
"Secretary of the Meeting."

"Meeting of the committee—all present.

"Voted, That Professor Morey and Mr. Whittlesey be a sub-committee on constitution.

"Voted, That Dr. Moore, Dr. Strong and Mr. Cooke be a sub-committee on membership.

"Adjourned, subject to the call of the chairman, Dr. Moore.

"MARTIN W. COOKE,

"Secretary of the Meeting."

"March 3, 1888. Meeting, at the residence of Mrs. Perkins, of persons proposing to join an Historical Society—Dr. E. M. Moore, presiding.

"Present: Dr. E. M. Moore, F. A. Whittlesey, Judge F. A. Macomber, Mrs. F. A. Macomber, Charles E. Fitch, Mrs. Wm. S. Little, Alfred Ely, Mrs. Alfred Ely, Prof. S. A. Lattimore, Mrs. S. A. Lattimore, Dr. A. H. Strong, Prof. J. H. Gilmore, Mrs. Isaac Hills, Miss Angeline S. Mumford, Prof. W. C. Morey, Robert Mathews, Mrs. Annie Bullions, George T. Parker, Mrs. George T. (Jane Marsh) Parker, Dr. E. V. Stoddard, Mrs. E. V. Stoddard, F. L. Durand, Mrs. William H. Perkins, Prof. A. H. Mixer, Henry E. Rochester, Miss Jane Rochester, John H. Rochester, Mrs. George C. Buell, Mrs. E. Darwin Smith, Mrs. Edward M. Smith, Judge James L. Angle, T. C. Montgomery, Gilman H. Perkins, Mrs. Gilman H. Perkins, Wm. F. Peck, and M. W. Cooke."

By resolution all present at the preliminary meeting, December 17, 1887, and the organization meeting, March 3, 1888, were declared to be "constituent members of the Historical Society about to be organized." A constitution was then adopted and the following named persons were elected as officers: President, Dr. Edward Mott Moore, Sr.; Vice-President, Rev. Augustus H. Strong, D. D.; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker; Recording Secretary, Willaim F. Peck; Treasurer, Gilman H. Perkins; Librarian, Herman K. Phinney. The following were appointed by the President as the first Board of Managers: Henry E. Rochester, Mortimer F. Reynolds, Hiram Sibley, George E. Mumford, Judge James L. Angle, Frederick A. Whittlesey, and Prof. William C. Morey."

The Society was incorporated June 1, 1888, pursuant to "An Act for the incorporation of societies or clubs for certain lawful purposes, L. 1875, Ch. 267; certificate filed in Monroe County Clerk's office, June 29, 1888; recorded in Liber 2 of Incorporation at p. 396.

For over four years after organization all the meetings were held at the home of Mrs. Gilman H. Perkins. At last

the membership became so large it was necessary to meet in public halls.

With the passing of those delightful early days the Society continued to hold meetings at which papers were read on subjects connected with local history.

The library and museum have become valuable collections, which are now located in the Museum Building, Edgerton Park.

The great seal of the Society is significant. It discovers a figure shooting an arrow upward, encircled by the legend, "The Rochester Historical Society." From the drawn bow of our auspicious beginnings we receive the upward impulse.

#### *The Mission:*

The Rochester Historical Society seeks the expansion of local consciousness into a fuller sense of the historic worth and dignity of our community. As heirs of the past, we cannot appreciate our inheritance without studying its origin. Every man and woman living in Rochester is affected by the past history of the city and, in turn, exerts some influence on its present and future history.

Ignorance of the past and indifference as to the future go hand in hand.

History is ever in flux, with nowhere finality. We see the past, the present and the future always in movement and alive. It has been said that "as soon as histories are properly told, no more need of romances." One need but say to the brave past: "Rise, and walk before me, that I may realize you!"

We live between two eternities in constant relation to the whole future and the whole past. Our future awaits, unseen, definitely shaped by the events of our past and present history. The part you play will alter the general result.

The soul of Rochester is the aggregate of all its individual lives present and past. Our local history is the essence of innumerable biographies.

These are mere platitudes unless we are fired by determination to live the life and play the game, serving the community with all our hearts.

History, like Charity, should begin at home. The best American citizens are those who are interested in local civic affairs. A study of the community in which one dwells will serve to connect it with the life of the State, the Nation and the world at large. *Know your city!*

A multitude of historical associations gather around the country of the Genesee. There are Indian legends, household traditions, incidents remembered by the oldest inhabitants; old books, documents and manuscripts recording wonder-tales of the wilderness, where men and women faced strange dangers and heavy toil. At the Genesee Falls they found the forest primeval. They left a city of homes. A few dared and suffered. Many enjoy the good. "Ye shall know them by their fruits."

The object of The Rochester Historical Society is to preserve the memory of these things. We are modern "time-binders," keeping the past vividly alive in its relation to the present and the future. We regard the accomplishments of the dead as the working capital for the living. The past, present and future are not three spheres of experience, but one; they are differing aspects of the eternal now. Remembering that the whole of our past was once present thought, feeling and action, we seek to excite keen and sympathetic appreciation of the hopes and dreams and struggles of the noble men and women who have gone before and who have left us a goodly heritage.

The Rochester Historical Society represents the best citizenship of our community. No other local organization is incorporated for the same purposes or fills this historical field. The Society can become a chief agency to crystallize into reality the visions of yesteryears, and so serve the highest good of our beloved city today.

There are some people who profess to be bored by local history. Like Huckleberry Finn they "take no stock in dead people." They are too busy with other matters to be "keen on the Historical Society," asserting that "it deals only with dead things." To establish the error of this charge devolves upon the membership. If they have vision and vitality then their Society offers something of real significance, a cog to

gear up perception with performance in live community service.

The enterprise is not merely worshipping men and women of the past. We seek no mute relies. Our mission deals only with living human personality, which never dies. We do not deal in death and dust. The splendid past of Rochester is our present inspiration for vital deeds. Our history is a dynamic, not a static thing.

It is the traditions handed down from our past generations that arouse public conscience and determination in every time of crisis. It was the glorious inheritance of our history, the urge of ancestry, that nerved our boys to go forth to serve in the World War, and in all our wars; and it is these traditions that hold us steady in times of peace. It is the memory of the loss and suffering that others have endured that we might be free and happy that stirs us like a bugle call.

He who has the vision of great memories, be they personal or historic, is able to look out upon the present with high courage to bring good things to pass; and he gazes into the future calm eyed and unafraid.

Men are moved by their hungers and controlled by their reverences. It was the hunger for a better tomorrow that peopled this fair land with millions from beyond the sea; and the three great reverences of our national soul are the reverence for the past with its inspiring personalities and events, the reverence for the present with its opportunities for human service, and the reverence for the future lifting better up to best.

*This is the mission of The Rochester Historical Society:* to quicken these three reverences; to rouse understanding; to translate our great community feeling into historic appreciation for present day use; to mobilize hearts; to open to all, even the very least of our fellow citizens, the windows three of memory and opportunity and hope; and as flame kindles flame to pass on to others the spirit of love, service and good will.

Ours is the oath of the young men of Athens: "In all ways we will transmit this city not less but greater, better and more beautiful than it was transmitted to us."

PAPERS READ  
BEFORE  
THE ROCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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# Some Earlier Public Amusements of Rochester

By GEORGE M. ELWOOD

*Read before The Rochester Historical Society, March 9, 1894*

Anyone attempting to write a comprehensive history of the earlier amusements of this city finds, at the outset, that he is going to be very much embarrassed through several causes, primarily, because there were so few of them, about which to write and, secondarily, because of the very meager and limited sources of information at his command concerning those few. Our forefathers of that early day were too busy in their struggle for existence in a new country, subduing the forests, planting and fostering the infant industries and fashioning the beginnings of this great city, to have either time or inclination for the lighter, less serious side of life. Hard days of earnest toil brought needed rest and they did not feel the want of those artificial aids to enjoyment that comes to older communities as the outgrowth of more of ease and leisure. And again, coming, as most of them did, from New England, they brought with them, naturally and unavoidably, prejudices and habits of thought inherited from a Puritan ancestry, whose canons were very strictly drawn in the matter of amusement. Rochester was, therefore, one of the last of the younger inland cities to yield a foothold to the player and the showman. As a further difficulty in the path of the historian, beyond the poverty of material, nearly all of those who sat in front of the early foot lights have passed away; there are none left who bear personal recollection of those Thespian beginnings. The sole reliance left, then, is the files of the newspapers and, here again, disappointment awaits the chronicler. The local press reflected the popular sentiment of the community, to which it catered, and its space was very limited. An occasional advertisement in small type was admitted to the columns, rather under protest,

but local editorial notice or comment was practically unknown, save an occasional note of condemnation and anathema, frequently deserved, no doubt. Some curious outeroppings of this sentiment I would like to read from examples in my possession did time permit. One will suffice:

Jan. 8th, 1828. "It is really astonishing to think that the trustees of so respectable a village as Rochester, should permit such a disorderly place as the theater. We express ourselves thus plainly from our knowledge that the respectable part of this community has long since decidedly disapproved the theater, and we do sincerely hope that our village trustees will, hereafter, when an application for license is presented by any playing company, act more in accordance with the wishes of the sober, reflecting and moral part of our citizens."

So late as 1849 the editorial staff of the Advertiser was prohibited from even mentioning theater or circus. In his "Sketches of Rochester," published in 1838, good old Henry O'Reilly gives a devout expression of thankfulness that "neither theater or circus can now be found in Rochester. The buildings formerly erected for such purposes were years ago turned to other objects—the theater is converted into a livery stable and the circus into a chandler's shop." It is amusing to note even along in the "fifties," when editorial comments and criticisms began to appear, they rarely, almost never, appeared on the day immediately following the entertainment, but frequently two or three days afterwards, when a few lines of vacant space could be found. Doubtless, many exhibitions came and went, leaving no trace behind them. Each generation seems to have its own idea of what constitutes a code of morality. Along in the period between 1825 and 1840, the papers would not notice the theater at all and were far from sure that concerts were quite proper, while their columns fairly teemed with lottery advertisements, all sorts of alluring schemes, with daily drawings at the wheel of fortune. The tickets were offered for sale, too, by a class of men, who, in this day, would scarcely be willing to have their names identified with such questionable schemes. Those advertisements would, under the present United States law,

have excluded every paper printed in Rochester from the mails and have subjected the publishers to heavy penalties.

From such records as time has spared and the sentiment of the day has permitted, I have prepared these chronicles, as the result of very many days of patient research. I am quite conscious of their many imperfections and can only express regret that the work was not done some years ago, while many were yet living who could have given material help in its preparation.

Prior to 1824, there was no regular place of amusement in the village. Occasional concerts and minor entertainments were given, principally by local talent, or, at long intervals, by traveling parties, in rooms, fitted up for the purpose, in the several taverns of the town. The most popular were those of the Eagle Tavern, on the site now occupied by Powers Block, and the Morton House, on the site of the present Powers Hotel.

On the 31st of October, 1820, we learn that "The concert which was to be holden in the meeting-house is postponed until Sunday evening next. Performance at 6. Doors close at 7:30; admittance two shillings. A piano fort is expected to accompany the musick. Performance to consist of anthems, solos, duets, etc." Please note how early the Sunday evening entertainment obtained a place here.

In January, 1821, Stowell & Co. announce "That they have opened an elegant museum at the Eagle Tavern of Ensworth & Son, consisting of thirty-four wax-figures, two elegant organs, one playing a variety of music, accompanied by a chime of bells, the other, a new patent organ, playing a variety of music accompanied by a drum and triangles: the Temple of Industry, a grand mechanical panorama, consisting of 26 moving figures, each working at their different occupations. Also elegant views.

"N. B.—They have just added a representation of the duel between Commodores Baron and Decatur."

In the summer of 1824, a frame structure was built on the east side of Exchange street, on, or very near, the spot where the county jail now is, to be "permanently occupied as a circus." This was the first regular "temple of art"

erected here. Its permanence under such dedication was compassed by a period of less than six months. It opened with the play of the "Miller's Frolick," "followed by a grand entre of eight beautiful leopard horses. Master Burton's unrivalled horsemanship will conclude by leaping over a surface of canvas nine feet wide, and alight again upon the horse while at full speed. For the first time in this place Mr. Connor will go through his grand equilibriums on the slack wire. Mr. Lewis will conclude the evening's entertainment with a grand trampoline, throwing a wonderful flying somerset over seven real horses and conclude by going through a balloon on fire sixteen feet high!"

Early in 1825, the Rochester Museum came into being. It was opened by J. R. Bishop, in the upper story of the Exchange street extension of the old Smith block, upon the spot where the Smith & Perkins building now stands. An early announcement says: "Everything has been done to make the establishment permanent and a public ornament, offering the naturalist, the philosopher, the Christian and the youth of the city a place of study, serious contemplation and amusement; several original paintings by native artists." From all that can be learned the museum had a slender beginning, a few minerals, fossils, skeletons and shells, some Indian curiosities and a few relics of more or less doubtful authenticity. But it grew in favor and held its place, through varying fortune, for more than a quarter of a century. One of its chief attractions, and one in which interest centered until the end, was its gallery of wax-works, without which no museum was complete. Originally the figures must have been very fair examples of that plastic art, but, as with their human prototypes, time also deals unsparingly with "wax-figgers." They, too, wax old, I might be tempted to say. Occasionally it was announced that the management had, at a great expense, procured new raiment for them, and, if it must be confessed, the management frequently re-christened them as well. They did duty under many guises. Joan of Arc, by some theosophical metamorphosis, known only to the management, and Madam Blavatsky, became reincarnated as the Empress of the French and then as Jenny Lind! Fancy,

if you can, Judas Iscariot doing duty as the Duke of Wellington, Dr. Parkman and Shylock! Sometimes exhibitions of pictures appeared on the walls of the museum. Here is one: July, 1840. "The proprietor would inform the public that he has just received from Philadelphia and added to his museum, a splendid collection of paintings, and has fitted up a room for their reception. 'The Maid of Saragossa,' 'Death of Sapphira,' 'Incredulity of St. Thomas,' etc., thirty-eight figures in all, the size of life. These paintings are the work of a celebrated artist, who has touched them with a masterly hand and need only be seen to be appreciated. The proprietor has been to great expense in getting up the collection and trusts to an enlightened public for remuneration."

A few years later the owner added a modest little theater known as the Museum Saloon, with a seating capacity of three or four hundred, where minor farces and pantomimes were occasionally given, both by regular stock companies of limited powers and entertainments by strolling players for short seasons. At an engagement, during the latter days of the Museum, a band of players calling themselves "The Eastern Dramatic Company," gave, in one week, "The Roof-Serambler," "Slasher & Crashier," "The Bandit Chief," "Mabel's Curse," "The Drunkard's Doom" and "Hamlet." What company for the melancholy Dane to be caught in! The Museum was abandoned about 1852, the "Daily Union" taking possession of the premises shortly after. A part of what was once the Museum was occupied for a number of years by the John C. Moore bookbindery. I can remember Saturday afternoon visits, as a boy, to the decaying collection of wax-works, dust covered, in their broken glass cases, relegated to a lumber-room partitioned off from the bindery—"The Rochester Beauty," pitiful in the faded and ragged remnants of her tawdry finery; a group illustrating the final unpleasant episode in the family affairs of the Moor of Venice; the Indian Massacre; the Drunkard's Progress, a series of ghastly reliques that haunted my dreams for nights afterward. There are those who yet remember, possibly some of you, the huge parrot on his perch outside the window, and the wheezing tones of the old barrel-organ that was wont to lure

the visiting rustic into the mysterious precincts of the Museum with the oft-repeated strains of the "Maid of Lodi" and "Bonaparte's March." Our lamented friend, Mr. George Arnold, told me, as a reminiscence of the Museum days, that Judge Chapin, not himself a patron of the Museum, had his office for a long time on the floor below, and that, when he vacated the office, it was found that the boards of the floor under the desk, at which he had sat so long, were worn quite through, where he had beaten time to the tunes of that same organ overhead, in the days of its pulmonary degeneration, summer and winter, for so many years.

In November, 1825, the circus having been abandoned, the building was fitted up as a theater and opened by a Mr. Davis, who announced his opening with the engagement of Mr. and Mrs. Smith, late of Utica and Saratoga theaters, in "Love and Madness" and "The Weathercock," followed soon after with "The Honeymoon," and "Fortune's Frolick." Some idea of the character of the audiences attracted may be gathered from the fact that, during the play of "Othello," the manager was obliged to stop the play, come forward and lecture the unruly ones in the pit. During this engagement a benefit was given for one unfortunate Mr. Hunn, "who had been burned out." The benefit realized \$48. Mr. Smith's benefit night presented "The Forty Thieves," and a somewhat equivocal advertisement says that "this piece will be the more interesting because the audience is familiar with the subject."

Toward the close of this year we read that, "For one night only, the Dramatic Ventriloquist, Mr. Taylor, at the Mansion House, will give a Colloquial Divertisement, that the front seats will be reserved for the ladies, and that if the weather proves unfavorable the performance will be postponed."

The next month is bulletined, also at the Mansion House, by Mr. and Mrs. Smith, a concert of vocal music, and the file says: "As we understand that they are to be accompanied by a pianofort (without a final e) we have no doubt they will have a crowded house."

Soon after this, in March, the Rochester Band announce a grand concert, and frankly explain that "having obligated

themselves for a good deal of money in procuring an instructor, they take this method of soliciting." As a tribute to the industry of that instructor, leading us to believe that he had earned "the good deal of money" for which the band had obligated themselves, they offered a programme of twenty-six numbers, besides encores, including the "DeWitt Clinton Grand Erie Canal March," "Dead March," "Hail to the Chief," etc.

The year 1826 was marked by the advent of two new theaters. Their birth was heralded with considerable flourish of trumpets and great prognostications were made as to their future, but both languished and died of inanition in early infancy. The first of these houses was located on the north side of Buffalo street, now West Main street, on the present site of the Young Men's Catholic Association building, and was opened April 8th; the management, Smith & Davis, announcing, "That it is their wish and intention to establish a permanent and respectable theater worthy of the rising greatness of this splendid and flourishing town." The company contained no notable names. The opening bill was "Richard III." and "The Rendezvous." This was the first presentation of Richard III, and probably one of the very first Shakespearean plays given here. As a sample of some of the dramatic food provided at this temple I may cite, "The Vampire, or the Bride of the Isles," "Pizarro," "George Barnwell" and "Tom and Jerry." The fortunes of this house waned rapidly and in three months it had ceased to be.

The second of these theaters was opened in a frame building, erected for the purpose, on the west side of Carroll, now State street, nearly opposite Market: in later years, after Thespis had flown, remembered as the Charles' livery stable. This building opened May 15th, with more of promise than had been the lot of its predecessors. There was a marked improvement in the class of audiencees, as well as the attractions offered. The evening opened with a prize address, in verse, written by Chancellor Whittlesey. The dramatic portion of the entertainment consisted of "The Honeymoon," followed by the comic opera of "The Poor Soldier." The stock company was made up of names, then unknown, now

long forgotten, with but a single exception. It was here that William Forrest first appeared. Little Billy Forrest, as he was familiarly called, became a comedian of a great deal of talent, extremely whimsical and droll in his personal appearance, versatile and original in his acting, reminding one very forcibly of the James Lewis of to-day. In one or another of the later theaters for many years, reaching down to the period of my recollection, he contributed much to the pleasure of Rochester's play-goers. No one who ever saw his "Bailie Nicol Jarvie" is likely to forget it.

In June a new melodrama was presented, entitled "The Vale of the Genesee, or the Big Tree Chief," written in this village and founded on a number of facts, well known to all the first settlers in the West."

A grand holiday performance was announced for the Fourth of July, at which was presented the "Grand Ballet of the American Tars Ashore," in the afternoon, followed in the evening by "The Glory of Columbia and the Soldier's Daughter," (red fire).

Soon after this Edmund Kean, having finished his first engagement in New York, and on his way to Niagara Falls, stopped over here for a day or two of rest. He played in this theater, "Sir Edward Mortimer" in the "Iron Chest." There is a tradition that the manager was a man whom Kean had known in England, and that the performance he gave was an amiable effort on his part to put an old acquaintance on his feet. Certainly he played here, and in this single event the theatrical history of Rochester differed from that of most young towns, in that the first real actor who trod its boards, was one of the very greatest tragedians of modern times. There is probably no one living who remembers that performance. All record of it is lost save the bare fact. Imagine the support that he must have had. Imagine the comparisons his mind must have drawn between that cheerless barn, lighted with tallow dips—its tawdry scenery and costumes,—its two-penny appointments, and the splendors of the Haymarket and Drury Lane, where he had won his laurels. This event was closely followed by the appearance of Tom Hamblin in "William Tell" and kindred parts.

During a short time the two play-houses ran in opposition. "Jane Shore" had a run at one house, and "Kenilworth" and "Robinson Crusoe" at the other. On the 23rd of May both theaters produced the same play, "Tekeli, or the Seige of Montgatz," "the first time west of Albany." The prices of admission were small then, but the patrons expected their money's worth, while the management evidently sought to make up in quantity what the plays may have lacked in quality. One bill presented "Macbeth," five acts, a fancy dance by Miss Hatch, followed by the three-act comedy of "Sweethearts and Wives," a play, the acting time of which, if I remember aright, is about two hours.

A certain amount of success seems to have followed this enterprise for, later on we learn, editorially this time, that "The theatrical corps seem to have played themselves, by their advertisements, into a very profitable speculation, and as a 'testimony of their gratitude' will appropriate the avails of this evening for the benefit of the Female Charitable Society. We are very apprehensive that the respectable ladies composing this commendable association have more self respect than knowingly to accept of money obtained through a channel which they are, by their efforts, endeavoring to persuade children to avoid as a noisome sink of immorality." (The Female Charitable Society justified the editorial expectation, and declined the proffered benefit). Prosperity was, it seems, of short duration and this house soon sank into the oblivion that had engulfed its predecessors.

The next two years are a blank, save for the appearance of an automaton whist player, at the Merchant's Exchange, "At Which Mr. Wiley Nickles will play with a pair of artificial hands." I wonder if that would help some of us to play our natural hands. There was, also, in 1828, exhibited at quarters in the Merchant's Exchange the first menagerie of living animals which the "manager feels sure will interest all those who are desirous of improving upon the study of Natural History." He thus catalogues his ferocious family group:

"1st. An African lion. This is not only the largest but

from his flowing mane and superior carriage is considered the finest of his species in America.

“2nd. A lioness, the most beautiful animal that has been seen in captivity—yet the most courageous. The lioness, when she has young ones to nourish, will combat with fury even the most powerful animals that oppose her. The tiger or elephant would on such an occasion, in vain attempt to oppose her. When pursued by mankind, she is only to be conquered by the powerful weapons which they bring against her.

“3rd. South American Tiger, whose ferocity is well known to travelers.

“4th. Celebrated Arabian Camel.

“5th. The Leopard.

“6th. Male Catamount.

“7th. Female Catamount.

“8th. Recently added a young Jagware, late from Borneo, also a dog-faced Baboon.

“9th. The Jackall or Lion’s provider.

“10th. Ichneumon, an Egyptian animal, famous for destroying Crocodile’s eggs and young reptiles, and formerly worshipped by the Egyptians.

“11th. Black Wolf, taken at Silver Lake, in Pennsylvania.

“12th. Grey Wolves, male and female.

“13th. Young Lama from Peru.

“14th. Ribbed-nose Baboon.

“15th. Saucy Jack.

“16th. Famous dancing Monkey, from the Island of Borneo.

“17th. Manzamet Monkey.

“18th. Monkey from Guinea.

“19th. Capt. Bill will go through his pleasing performances on his Indian Poney, with other diverting tricks.

“20th. Dandy Jack, the semi-equestrian, has excited the admiration of all who have visited the Menagerie, with his unexampled feats of horse-monkey-ship, on his small Shetland Poney. A ring is fitted for his performance.

"21st. The sailor who never fails to divert the audience with his pleasing performances.

"22nd. Barbary Ape.

"23rd. Sports of the Ring. Also a number of smaller animals."

Another traveling menagerie, exhibited here about this time, mentioned among its attractions a Zebra and two living "Emuses."

The sole item of interest in 1829 was an event, devised for amusement but culminating in tragedy, the leap of Sam Patch over the Falls of the Genesee. The first leap took place on the 6th of November, from the crest of the upper fall one hundred feet into the pool below, and was successful. The last occurred one week later, Friday, November 13th, (unlucky thirteen) at 2 P. M., and was witnessed, it was estimated, by seven or eight thousand people. He jumped from a staging erected 25 feet above the verge of the Fall, and having first thrown his pet bear into the gulf below, he quickly followed. It was supposed that he was intoxicated. At all events he lost his poise in the air, turned upon his side and upon striking the water sank, never to rise again. His body was found at Charlotte the next spring, and was buried in an unmarked grave in the little road-side burying ground at the right as you enter the village. His name became famous simply because he was the pioneer in that long procession of inspired idiots who have continued bridge-jumping and rapid-shooting, making parachute descents from lofty balloons and navigating the ocean in dories, ever since. In distant provinces the traveler always finds that Rochester is inseparably associated in the minds of the people, either with the advent of spirit-rappings or the fate of Sam Patch.

The ten years that now succeed are almost entirely devoid of interest, with no regular place of amusement except the mild attractions offered by the Museum. Very few attempts were made even by local talent, while the wandering minstrel and strolling fakir seem to have learned that Rochester was a serious town and gave it a wide berth. In 1837 there is a brief mention of the first appearance of Mrs. McClure, after-

ward Mrs. W. G. Noah, at the theater, presumably the Museum, although the locality is not specified, as "Helen McGregor" in "Rob Roy." Mrs. McClure afterward became a very celebrated actress in tragic roles, having, at one time, in Boston, I believe, played an engagement, while Charlotte Cushman was playing the same parts at a rival theater, and fairly divided the interest of the public with that queen of tragedy. It was in this cast at the Museum that Dan Marble's name first appears. A little later, at Marble's benefit, the bill included "Richard III," "Valentine and Orson," the farce of "Frank Fox Phipps" and the play of "Sam Patch," four plays—five hours at least—and all for fifty cents.

On the 11th of September in 1840, Mr. Edwin Dean, a veteran manager, then conducting the Eagle Street theater in Buffalo, came here to establish a place to be managed in connection with the Buffalo house, and succeeded in founding the first theater that was really deserving of the name. He leased what was then known as Concert Hall, in Child's Marble Building, on the east side of Exchange Street, south of the canal. Another story was added to the old building and it was divided into dress-circle and boxes, pit (corresponding in locality to the modern parquet), and a gallery called the family-circle. The green-room and dressing-rooms were in the south end of the building, and, as was customary in the best theaters of that time, there was a door from the pit leading into an adjoining bar. This building still stands. It was occupied for many years as the armory of the 54th Regiment, when many of the decorations of the old theater remained. A very fine stock company, for that day, was here gathered together. Among them was Mrs. McClure, in leading parts alternating with Mrs. Dean, Joseph Parker as leading man, Little Billy Forrest, as comedian, Mr. and Mrs. Archer and others. Sam Parker, afterward a noted scenic artist, started here; James Barron led the orchestra and Captain Alex Scott was captain of the supers.

During Mr. Dean's management a number of star engagements were played, the intervals being filled by the stock com-

pany. About this time a class of plays were coming into vogue calling for elaborate scenic display, spectacular plays, so called. To meet this demand the manager brought here James Lamb, a very talented scene-painter from the Drury Lane, London. Under his direction were produced the spectacular plays of "Alladin," "Cherry and Fair Star," "The Children of Cyprus," "The Ice-Witch or Sun-God" and "Faustus." The last two had long runs. The scenery and mounting of these pieces must have been very creditable work, far in advance of the time. One scene in "Faustus"—Moonlight in the Drachenfels—was a particularly memorable one. Lamb also painted the drop-curtain, a hall of statuary with a tessellated pavement, Shakespeare upon a pedestal in the center. At this time, and in this place, Edwin Forrest played his first engagement in Rochester, supported by Miss Clifton and presented "Metamora," "Richard III," "Claude Melnotte," "Spartacus," "Macbeth" and "Virginius." The price was raised to one dollar and the house was nightly filled to the doors. The elder Booth and Henry Grattan Plunkett also played here that season. It was in this house that little Julia Dean made her first appearance in a minor part of the "Last Days of Pompeii." She must, at that time, have been about eleven or twelve years of age, frequently appearing thereafter in child parts, messengers, pages, etc. She was the daughter of the manager, Edwin Dean, and afterward became one of the greatest of American actresses. She married Dr. Arthur Hayne, of the old South Carolina family of that name, and retired from the stage, returning to it, when widowed, some years later. There are many who remember, possibly some here to-night, her great beauty, exceeding grace of manner and winning personality, accompanied by a wonderfully modulated voice and great dramatic power. Her greatest role was "Queen Catharine," in which she was "every inch a queen." I saw her in that part in Chicago in the time when her great power was at its fullest maturity, yet still retaining her rare beauty and grace. The impression then made will never be effaced. Another little daughter of the manager, Edwina Dean, frequently appeared

as a danseuse between the plays, as did also Mrs. McClure's daughter Ada, in the ever popular "Highland Fling," and "Sailor's Hornpipe."

An old attache of this theater has told me a little incident that is rendered the funnier by the fame afterward achieved by its heroine. During the run of "Alladin" Julia Dean played the young princess. The play required the comedian, Kazrac (Billy Forrest), to consume, at each performance, a large bowl of macaroni smoking hot. This succulent dish was nightly prepared by the property man in a tin pail on the green-room stove, for want of a more convenient place, being allowed to simmer until wanted. But, night after night, when the cue was given for the macaroni to enter, it was missing. None knew where it went. Its disappearance was a dark mystery, and poor Forrest's funny act was reduced to a dumb show only. Finally a watch was set and little Julia was found to be the culprit. The managerial exchequer was much depleted in those days and the inference is unavoidable that her juvenile appetite was revenging itself upon the meager fare at home. I wonder if the great actress, amid the echoing plaudits of half a continent, ever recalled with a smile, a tear perhaps, those hungry childhood days in Rochester when she stole Kazrac's maearoni.

Dean originally took a five years' lease of the theater, but, after a time, the popular opposition to the drama seems to have broken out afresh. His business ran down and he became involved in debt. Complaining of the continued opposition of the clergy, he challenged them to a public discussion of the merits of the theater, the proceeds to be devoted to charity, but no one seems to have responded. The business continued to decline until, at the end of the third year of his management, he gave up the contest and abandoned his lease.

In October, 1840, an amateur concert was announced at the National Hotel, under the patronage of Judge Gardiner, Dr. Munn and Dr. Frederic Backus, to erect a monument in Mt. Hope to the memory of Samuel A. Cooper, a professor of music.

In January, 1841, Sig. Blitz, the renowned sleight-of-hand

performer and ventriloquist, seems to have made his first appearance here in a series of entertainments at the National Hotel hall, proposing, at the same time, that, he would "during the daytime give private instructions in ventriloquism to such citizens as desired to become proficient in the art."

In the summer of this year the Rochester City Garden was opened on the south side of Main street, on the spot now occupied by Palmer's block, nearly opposite North street. Peter Palmer was the proprietor and the entertainments consisted principally of music and fire-works. It was for a long time a popular summer evening resort. One of the earlier garden advertisements promises a concert by Williams' Light Infantry band, and three pieces of fire-works! Tickets 12 1-2 cents, "for which a refreshment will be served." Another, on the 4th of July, 1845, the following is the order of the day: "At 10 o'clock the water fountain will commence playing and continue at intervals during the day. A grand promenade concert. At noon a fire-balloon will be sent off. In the evening rockets will be fired at intervals, and an exhibition of fireworks, consisting of a splendid Chequier-piece, the Signet of Peru, Star of Independence, the Persian Glory, to conclude with the Era of the Battle of Bunker Hill," and lest the wild enthusiasm engendered by all these exciting causes—the water fountain, balloon and lurid glories later on, should incite the audience to riot, we are informed "that an efficient posse of officers will be in attendance to preserve order."

In connection with the City Garden was a small hall used for concerts, balls and exhibitions of various kinds. At one time it was converted into a theater for a short season, under the management of a man who had formerly been a machinist in Oswego, and who was known, while here, as Isaac Merritt. He did not make a success of the venture, and left town heavily in debt for rent and other expenses. This man was Isaac Merritt Singer, afterward the inventor and manufacturer of the Singer sewing machine, and who died in England a few years since, worth many millions.

We now enter upon a period of increased and constantly increasing interest, beginning with the years 1843-44. While, by the retirement of Dean, the city was left without a

permanent playhouse, the opening of the railroads had made traveling easier and cheaper, the young city was growing rapidly and possibly with more of leisure; the appetite for amusement was sharpened and consequently better patronage was assured. Negro minstrelsy was just struggling into existence and panoramas, dioramas, etc., illustrating a variety of subjects, history, travel and allegory, were finding a place in the popular taste.

About this time the temperance revival, known as the Washingtonian movement, was at its height; its impress being very apparent in many of the entertainments offered the public in these years. It seemed also necessary for each advertisement to assure the people of the absolute and unimpeachable morality of the entertainment it heralded. The growth of the intellectual life of the community was also evidenced in the reaching out after something that should at once amuse, elevate and instruct. What may be termed the "lecture era" was about to dawn. Want of time warns me that I must but briefly allude to many items upon which I would gladly dwell longer.

On August 7, 1843, Henry Russell, an English vocalist, who possessed a voice of great sweetness, gave his first concert, at the Eagle. His name appears several times in the annals of the next four or five years. The "Democrat" said on the day following his first concert, "He sings as no one else we have ever heard can sing and probably as well as any one else, during the present century, will sing."

On this same day Tom Thumb made his first of many bows to a Rochester audience at the Morton House. He is described "as 11 years old, 25 inches high and weighing 15 pounds. the smallest person that ever walked alone; is pleasant, agreeable, lively, intelligent and sociable." He was certainly lively enough in after life.

In October, at the Morton House, "Mr. Williams and his daughters will give a grand and unparalleled evening's entertainment consisting of temperance songs, duets and dances." I cannot imagine just what a temperance dance may have

been like, but possibly it foreshadowed the skirt dance of the latter end of the century.

Soon after this Mr. Winchell, the great humorist, made his first appearance, in the new hall of the Museum, with an olio of impersonations, whims and oddities. The mention of his name will bring up the recollection of many a hearty laugh. On this occasion we read that "A young lady of Rochester will sing a variety of songs, duets, etc." A talented girl that, to sing a duet all by herself! Winchell was a frequent visitor for a number of years.

In January, 1844, came a moral exhibition, at Irving Hall, in Smith's Arcade block, Mr. Parker's illustrations of the Bible, *Paradise Lost*, *Pilgrim's Progress*, etc. "Mr. Parker has been exhibiting at Batavia to crowded houses."

And now comes the Washingtonians. January 3rd we read of a moral exhibition, at the Morton House, of "The Reformed Drunkard," by Mr. Robinson and his assistants. "It depicts the career of the drunkard from the fashionable wine-cup to the alms-house. Those who wish a hearty laugh or a hearty cry may find an opportunity to exercise their better feelings in this respect by witnessing the waggeries of Tom, or the pathetic appeals of the sister and wife."

Soon following, again at the Morton House, comes "a grand astronomical, comical and moral exhibition (always moral). Mr. Goss will exhibit, by means of a powerful optical instrument, the most interesting and striking phenomenas of the heavens, the sun, moon, etc., will describe the signs of the zodiac, also a series of diagrams exhibiting the drunkard from his first tippling at the wine-cup down to the depths of misery and woe, together with a large number of scriptural views. A large number of comical diagrams will also be introduced and a good band will be in attendance. Tickets, one shilling, to be had at the Morton House bar."

In May a grand vocal concert, at Irving Hall, by Covert and Dodge (Ossian E. Dodge) beginning with the "Grave of Bonaparte," "Robin Ruff," and "Happy Land" and ending with "The Dutchman's Account of His Intemperate Son."

At Concert Hall the faucet was turned on and a

temperance drama was produced entitled "The Victim of the Cup of Woe," and anon, the Museum took up the cry with a grand moral exhibition, which, the advertisement tells us, "Should be visited and patronized by all of our citizens who are in favor of putting down aleohol."

Permit me to record two further testimonials of morality. At Concert Hall we learn of a "Grand Chemical and Moral Diorama, showing Milan Cathedral, the Holy Sepulchre, Belshazzar's Feast, etc." "R. Winter begs to inform the citizens of Rochester that he feels proud in stating that his exhibition stands preeminent for its moral tendencies." On July 3rd there was a "moral concert at the Morton House, by the Twin Sisters, the Misses Macomber. Music by Miss Clara Jane, violinist, and Miss Emma Loraine, violincello, accompanied by their voices. Nothing in song, word or dress can be objectionable to the visits of the most fastidious of any religious denomination." Lindley Murray might have objected.

A couple of rather amusing survivals of this time are as follows: "A concert in May, 1844, at the Morton House. Doors open at 8, to commence at 8:30 (the people were evidently beginning to sit up later now). Mr. Bley, first violinist of Paris Musical Gymnasium concerts. Mr. Willson will preside at the piano. The seventh number on the programme: Les Cloches, hymne du Soir piecee imitative, pour piano et violin, executed par Mr. Willson et Mr. Bley." The French was executed whether the piece was or not!

In October, 1845. "Concert Extraordinary at Irving Hall, Mons. Joseph Dundonie, from Paris, will give a grand concert upon his Componeum Quintetto, an instrument that has required his personal attention for seven years in its constructing. Will represent a perfect band of ten instruments, and twenty-five bells, playing upon each separately and playing the whole together with "Bonaparte's March," and firing minute-guns with his Quintetto, for particulars see small bills." Would that we had a small bill!

And here come the lecturers, a few straggling pioneers in advance of the main column, soon followed by a grand army

in solid phalanx. One of the earliest was Colton, the historian of the American Indian, about 1843. In 1844, the Young Men's Association gave the first regular course of which I find record. All, with the exception of Elihu Burritt, the learned blacksmith, were citizens of Rochester. The Revs. Dr. Shaw, Dr. Whitehouse, Edwards and F. W. Holland, B. R. McAlpine, Dr. E. M. Moore, Professor Dewey, George Dawson, then editor of the "Democrat," J. W. Dwinell, Dr. Dean, E. Peshine Smith and Thomas C. Montgomery.

Soon after in 1846-47, in the first course of the Athenaeum, appear names a little further from home: Rev. Samuel J. May, of Syracuse; J. O. Putnam and the Rev. Dr. Hosmer, of Buffalo, and President Nott, of Union College. The popularity of the institution was now assured, and, during the succeeding ten years, each season brought its galaxy of bright stars from the firmament of letters, theology, science, oratory and statecraft: Lewis Cass, John A. Dix, R. H. Dana, Mark Hopkins and Horace Greeley, in 1849. Beecher, Saxe, Dr. Pierpont, Theodore Parker, Emerson, Horace Mann, Horatio Seymour, E. P. Whipple, James T. Brady, Donald G. Mitchell and Oliver Wendell Holmes, Henry J. Raymond, T. Starr King, Parke Godwin, George William Curtis, Henry Giles, Wendell Phillips, Bayard Taylor, Bishop Potter, Prof. Silliman, John B. Gough, Higginson, Cassius M. Clay and Fred. Douglass, Salmon P. Chase, James Russell Lowell and Charles Sumner, Gilmore Sims, J. S. C. Abbott and Lieutenant Maury, S. S. Coxe, E. H. Chapin and B. P. Shillaber. Added to these were a scientific course by Professor Boynton, on geology; by Professor O. M. Mitchell, six illustrated lectures on astronomy; and six by Professor Louis Agassiz. Pardon this long catalogue, but it seemed worth recalling and the record incomplete without it. Who can estimate, at its true value, the work of that old Athenaeum in molding the thought and intellectual life of this city? The popular lecture, as it was then understood, has long been a thing of the past. It was needed then and served its day faithfully and well.

The history of the early amusements would not be complete without some account of the traveling circus. The

Broadway circus was the first to pitch its tent within our gates, in the summer of 1840. Its announcement was characterized by that modest verbiage that has since become typical of the class, in testimony whereof, "Mr. Cadwallader, a Philadelphian by birth, and styled by equestrian artists the Colossal Rider. This gentleman's feats is truly wonderful, the apparent ease and grace maintained by Mr. Cadwallader while his fiery steeds are darting around the arena, have created the greatest sensation before the most fashionable audiences of N. Y. Master Jno. Glenroy, the Pride of the American Arena, and pupil of the great Cadwallader, whose extraordinary feats on the back of his rampant steed leaves the audience in wonder and amazement, who justly term him the Equestrian Roseius of America." Then followed the well remembered names of Howe's circus, with Dan Rice as clown, Rockwell & Stones's, with Levi J. North, the equestrian, and Herr Cline, the rope-walker; Spalding's, Van Amburgh's, Sand's, Rice & Lent's and Robinson's; sometimes four and five coming in a single season. Barnum came first in 1848. Some of the earlier circuses are advertised to appear "near Brown's square, on the grass plat between Kent and Frank streets," one "on the open space on North Fitzhugh street." Falls Field became the favorite camping ground of these Arab tourists about 1847.

Simultaneously with the beginning of the lecture era there was a marked increase in the frequency of musical events, as well as a distinct advance in their character and quality. On the 21st of June, 1844, Ole Bull gave the first of his concerts here, in Concert Hall, the price of admission being raised to one dollar, the highest price that had yet been charged. In the local columns of the "Democrat" we find the following, one of its first attempts: "The concert was well attended, and he did here what he has done everywhere, astonished the natives. Like the eagle, he flies swift, soars high and lights on lofty peaks. If any one feels competent to write a scientific criticism of his performance here, we will publish it. We would as soon think of criticising the sun or

the tumultuous bounding of the waters of the Niagara cataract."

Next in order came the first of many visits of those lesser stars, the Hutchinson Family, Abby, Judson, John and Asa, at the Morton House, with long hair, long collars, long programmes and long vowels. In their repertoire we find "The Old Granite State," "The Cot Where I Was Born," and "The Grave of Bonaparte" again. From the frequency with which this latter piece was called into action, at this period, we can hardly wonder that the bones of the illustrious Corsican could find neither peace nor seclusion in a grave, about which so much noise was made, and deserting it, returned to France.

The next year the first troupe of Swiss Bell-Ringers, long a favorite guild here, came to Irving Hall; this party rejoicing in the name of Campanologian Brothers. This year also marked the advent of negro minstrelsy, which soon won the hearts of our fathers, entering upon a long reign of popularity, which survives in some degree to the present. The first performance of Christy's Minstrels was given in the Eagle Hotel assembly room Sept. 17th, 1845. The advertisement says, "Christy's far famed band of Ethiopian Minstrels, whose concerts have been received with approbation by the elite and fashion of the principal cities, will give selections from the most popular operas of the day, accompanied by banjo, tambourine, violin and bone castanets; in all of which they are unequalled in the world."

November 24th, 1845, heralded the first appearance of Mr. Dempster in a concert at the Eagle. Four days later he repeated this concert, the occasion being the opening of "the new and splendid Minerva Hall," which was located on the east side of Main street between St. Paul and Clinton, and became at once the scene of all the better class of entertainments. This hall was burned in the disastrous conflagration resulting from the Atlantic Cable celebration, in the autumn of 1858, and was never rebuilt as a public hall. Dempster returned here a number of times and was held in high regard by our citizens, deservedly so, for, in spite of his peculiar

mannerisms he had a very sweet voice of great richness. He sang popular songs, such as the "Lament of the Irish Emigrant," "John Anderson, My Joe;" his main reliance always being "The May Queen." All his songs were introduced by funny little interpolations delivered over his shoulder, while sitting at the piano. "The next song that I shall have the honor to present, ladies and gentlemen, was written by my cherished friend, Mr. Alfred Tennyson, whom I have recently left in England. It describes the gradual decay and premature death of a beautiful young girl. It is entitled the 'Queen of May.'"

In 1846, the Christy's and Dempster came again, and also the pianist, Leopold de Meyer, and the ever popular Martinez, with his guitar, at Irving Hall.

In 1847, the Alleghanians first came, and soon after Henry Herz, the pianist, accompanied by Camillo Sivori, the violinist. Sivori was the favorite pupil and acknowledged successor of Paganini. During this past week the papers have chronicled his death, at the age of eighty in Genoa, the city of his birth. In 1848, the minstrels came at shorter intervals, the panorama flourished with increased vigor, and in August, at one of a series of concerts given by Miss Julia Hill, of this city, under the direction of her father, a teacher of music, Master Theodore Thomas, then known as a juvenile prodigy, was the extra attraction.

During this time of progress in musical art there is little to record in a dramatic way. Mr. H. P. Grattan, a member of the London Dramatic Author's Association, made an attempt, with the opening of 1845, to revive Dean's theater under the name of "The Dramatic Saloon," but with no stronger attraction than himself and Mrs. Madison in leading parts the effort was a short-lived one. The next year another futile attempt was made, in the same house, under the management of John S. Potter with a fair company, playing a variety of light plays, after which a season of tragedy with Mr. A. A. Adams in leading parts and again it failed. Another short season was played at the Exchange Street placee, under the direction this time of J. H. Powell, ending once more in

disaster after playing a few minor stars, and then, this house drops entirely out of view.

The same summer, 1848, a new theater was fitted up in the Enos Stone building on South St. Paul Street, just south of Main, a site that has been continuously occupied for this purpose under different names, from that time until the present. This theater was much larger and more conveniently arranged. The first building was burned during an engagement of Mr. Wallack, on the night of November 6th, 1869. It was immediately rebuilt by its owner, Judge Finek, of Brooklyn, and was again burned in February, 1891, the present Cook's Opera House having since been erected on the same site. It was first opened in Christmas week, 1848, by Carr & Warren, then also managers of the Buffalo Theater, for a short mid-winter season. They continued to be the lessees for several years, bringing their Buffalo company here for two or three brief seasons each year, and playing also a few of the better class of stars.

It may be interesting to explain, for the benefit of some of our younger members, that the dramatic combination companies, traveling across the country at the present day, were then unknown. Each regular theater had a full stock company, orchestra and working-force of its own, stage manager, scene painters, carpenters and property-men. These companies varied in numbers and strength according to the patronage, and were made up of a number of actors, each of whom was supposed to be proficient in some particular line of character, which was indicated by recognized technical names, as, for instance, leading man, leading lady, leading juvenile, first old man, first old lady, heavy man (who did the villains), first and second comedy, soubrette, or "singing chambermaid," chorus and "general utility," i. e., available for all classes of minor parts. To these were usually added one or two forlorn little waifs, who did sleepy duty when the piece required a child part. These distinctions, then rigidly observed, have been well-nigh obliterated by the modern methods. The stars of that time came alone, relying solely upon the support of the local company. The poor stock

actor then had frequently to study, dress from his own professional wardrobe, and perform six or seven new parts each week of the season. The minor parts, chorus and supernumeraries were dressed from a stock wardrobe that formed a part of the belongings of every theater. When, as was frequently the case, the resources of the wardrobe were limited in quantity, and equally limited in quality, the effect produced upon the scene represented was often grotesque and comical in the extreme.

Each season began with the best star attractions obtainable, and later, as the interest waned, there followed several weeks of spectacular pieces and plays performed exclusively by the stock, finally dwindling down to a few nights of complimentary benefits to each member of the regular company in rotation, and the stage artisans, the terms of engagement being usually so much per week in the way of salary, and a half-clear benefit (one-half of the box office proceeds of the night), at the end of the season.

The stock company brought here by Carr & Warren was a good one, with Mr. Perry as leading man, Mr. Crisp, Ben Rogers, Dan Marble, Billy Forrest and others. The first stars that they played were Mr. and Mrs. James W. Wallack, the plays "Macbeth," "Othello," "Richard III," "Hamlet," "Romeo and Juliet," "The Hunchback," "Merchant of Venice," "Werner" and "The Stranger." Following this engagement Barney Williams gave a week of Irish comedy; C. D. Pitt, a week of legitimate drama and tragedy; Mrs. Farren, a week, and then Julia Dean, who was now coming into fame, appearing in "The Wife," "Evadne," "Fazio," "Lucretia Borgia," "Jane Shore," "The Hunchback," and "The Taming of the Shrew." In the next winter season George Ryer and Leflingwell, both excellent actors, appear added to the stock. Among the stars are the names of Miss Duff, Mrs. Farren, again, Edwin Eddy, Mr. and Mrs. Pitt, Mrs. Mossop, The Wallacks and others. At other times the young actresses, Susan and Kate Denin, Susan, then scarcely more than a child, we find playing "Richard III," one night and Pauline, in the "Lady of Lyons," the next. Then came J. R.

Seott, Miss Kimberly in higher eomedy, Mrs. Wilkinson in tragedy, Mr. Coulcock and Eliza Logan.

For several seasons Louisa Pray, a younger sister of Mrs. Florene, was engaged as a danseuse, appearing between the plays. Beginning on the 16th of February, 1852, Charlotte Cushman played a crowded engagement of a week in this house, presenting "Guy Mannering" (her greatest character was "Meg Merrilies"), "As You Like It," "Lady Macbeth," "The Stranger," "Pauline," "Romeo," and "Queen Catherine." Some weeks later Lola Montez, then at the zenith of her somewhat questionable fame, played six nights (the matinee was then unheard of) and then the new "Uncle Tom's Cabin" had a long run. The theater now became known as the "Metropolitan," and later passed under the management of Mr. C. T. Smith.

J. R. Scott, the Marsh family of juveniles, Frank Chanhfrau in "Toodles," Eddy, the Denins, Mrs. McClure, and a season of dilute English opera by Caroline Richings were the attractions. The next April Mr. W. J. Florence first came with "Paddy Miles' Boy," "The Irish Lion," and similar Irish farce comedies. By his great ability as an aetor in a new and very amusing school, as well as by his many amiable and lovable qualities as a man, he soon made for himself a warm place in the affections of very many of our citizens, a place that he ever occupied until the day of his death.

"Where be your gibes now? Your gambols? Your songs? Your flashes of merriment, that were wont to set the table on a roar?"

While we have been thus occupied with the growth of the new theater, it must not be inferred that the little public halls were idle. The attractions were multiplying so rapidly that we can now only hope to notice briefly some of the most interesting. In June, 1845, the "connoisseurs and amateurs of Rochester and vicinity are respectfully informed that a collection of ancient oil paintings by old masters is now open for exhibition and sale at the Mechanie's Hall, State street, comprising specimens from the pencils of Reubens, Salvator Rosa, Albrecht Durer and others." Probably there were more by "others."

The first pugilistic entertainment appears on the bills of 1848, soft gloves in those days, no doubt! Dr. Valentine, the celebrated humorist. The Viennoise children, a charming exhibition of fancy dancing, at the Blossom House assembly room. Rembrandt Peale's great picture of "The Court of Death." Professor Wise's first balloon ascension. A Shakespearean reading by Fanny Kemble Butler, at Concert Hall. A long season of the Aztec Lilliputians at Minerva Hall. Bayne's Voyage to Europe, one of the finest panoramas ever painted. Powers' great statue, "The Greek Slave," at Concert Hall. Dick Sliter's and the original Campbell's minstrels. A very interesting evening at Minerva Hall, by Dr. Colton, illustrating in detail the, then new, magnetic telegraph. A line was built around the hall with several stations, and the whole method of sending and receiving messages was explained. These were a few of the items of interest, with which the "Forties" closed. About this time the largely increased German population naturally felt the need of some place of amusement distinctively their own. A modest frame building was erected in the German quarter, on the east side of North Clinton street. It was built by the society known as the Turnverein, and was occupied frequently for musical and gymnastic entertainments, generally followed by dancing, and for dramatic performances, usually on Sunday evenings. This structure, commonly known as "Lemon Hill," has since been replaced by the present Germania Hall.

We now come to the most interesting event in the history of the public amusements of this city, the building and opening of Corinthian Hall. Early in the year 1849, a number of small buildings occupying a low space in the rear of the Arcade were pulled down and the new structure erected by William A. Reynolds, Henry Searle being the architect and designer. With the exception of the north the walls stand to-day as then built. Entrance to the hall was had by means of the first flight of stairs from Exchange place, located as at present, thence through a long hallway extending the length of the building and dividing into two stairways, to the right and left, that led up to landings, from which the audience

room was entered by doorways on either side of the stage, so that one came into the hall facing the audience instead of from the rear, as is common. The floor was on a level, seated with movable settees, while, extending around the outside of the hall, were six rows of raised sofas, each tier a little higher than those in front. The stage was a simple platform, at the back of which was a shallow recess or alcove, curtained midway from floor to ceiling with red damask portieres supported by a gilded cornice. At the back of the stage stood two superbly modeled Corinthian columns, copied from those of the tomb of Lysicrates, one of the purest and most beautiful examples of Greek art. The building was originally called "The Athenaeum," but on the day before the opening upon consultation with some of the leading citizens, Mr. Reynolds decided to christen it Corinthian Hall, the name being suggested by the aforementioned columns. The second floor of the building was occupied, on the right as you ascended the stairs, by the reading room and library of the Athenaeum, and on the left by the law library, offices and by historic "No. 7," a room for many years redolent with very many delightful memories. It was the private office and parlor of Mr. Reynolds. It was tastefully furnished and decorated with pictures and the very air breathed the generous hospitality of its genial host. Into this cozy little retreat the favored few were almost nightly invited, after the entertainment upstairs, lecture or concert, was over, to meet the reigning star or stars of the evening and pass an hour, sometimes, it may be said, several hours, in social intercourse, music, song and story. It is only a memory now. Few of the younger generation have heard of it, but to such as were among the fortunate ones, the recollection and associations of "Number Seven" will ever linger, recalling delightful hours. The hall had a seating capacity of about eleven or twelve hundred, as shown by the diagram, but when, as was often the case at popular lectures and great occasions, Mr. Reynolds and his faithful lieutenants, Fleming and old Charlie Cazeau, had packed with stools every aisle and the space around the outside of the hall and in front, up to the very doors, sometimes the platform itself, it then

held 1,500 and even 1,600 souls. With every foot thus packed and with only those two doors for exit, and the narrow turning stairways it was through Divine mercy alone that there was never an alarm of fire or a panic in the building in those days, else Rochester would have been called upon to mourn hundreds of its bravest and fairest.

The hall was opened with an evening of formal dedication on June 28, 1849. From that day it became the scene of all the leading entertainments. The smaller halls were deserted, one after another closed and was forgotten, or at least fell into "innocuous desuetude." To give anything like a chronological summary of the entertainments of which this hall was the theater, during the years that followed, would be impossible in the space allotted to me. Only the briefest mention of a few of the most notable events is all that can be attempted, and I shall be done.

One of the earliest memorable happenings, associated as it is with Rochester's history, was the first public exposition of spirit-rappings, "the Rochester Knockings," as it was called elsewhere, on November 14, 1849.

The month of July, 1851, was one that must always be printed in red letters in the musical annals of this city. In the first week came the first grand concert, except Ole Bull's, that had ever been given here, by Madame Anna Bishop, accompanied by several lesser lights. Her fame had preceded her to such an extent that on her arrival, the day before the concert, she was met at the cars by the mayor in his official capacity, and escorted to her hotel. The concert consisted, so says the advertisement, of "selections from opera, partly in costume," a precedent that has been closely followed by some of our modern light opera companies, if we may believe the posters. The second week was marked by another grand concert, by Madame Theresa Praodi, under the management of the veteran impresario, Maurice Strakosch. This was his initial venture here and he was so pleased with his reception that Rochester became one of his favorite stands and hither he brought, in the years to come, all of his attractions. Strakosch appeared himself in this programme, as did also his

wife, Mme. Amalia Strakosch, the eldest of the gifted Patti family. The tickets were placed, for the first time, at two dollars. The house was rather a slim one, although an editorial next day informs us that the "audience seemed pleased with all the pieces." A repetition was given the next evening, at which the price was reduced to one dollar and the house was filled.

After this followed another concert by the irrepressible Hutchinsons, by way of contrast, and then, the third week of the month was ushered in by the greatest musical event in our history, the two concerts, on the 22nd and 24th of July, by Jenny Lind, fresh from her unprecedented triumphs in New York. She arrived on the 21st, leaving the cars at the foot of Goodman street, we learn, in order to avoid the troublesome throng of sightseers and was driven by a round-about way to the Eagle Hotel. The price of tickets was fixed at \$2, \$3 and \$4. They were placed on sale in a store on State street, No. 56, near the corner of Market, a high board fence having been erected across the sidewalk to the ticket window. A mad struggle for seats ensued and every ticket was soon sold. So much dissatisfaction resulted on the part of the disappointed ones that the sale of seats for the second concert was had by auction in the hall on the intervening day, high premiums being paid in many cases for choice. The great singer was accompanied by the pianist, Otto Goldschmidt, whom she afterward married, by Joseph Burke, the great violinist, and by Belletti, tenor. She sang "Come to Him," from the Messiah, an aria from "Somnambula," duo from Rossini, with Belletti, "The Bird's Song," "Comin' thro' the Rye," and her celebrated "Echo Song," in which she has never been approached.

On the second evening she sang an aria from "Der Freischutz," "Casta Diva," from "Norma," the "Tyrolean Duet," with Belletti, the "Gipsy Song," "Mountaineer's Song," and "Home Sweet Home." Both evenings were hot and the windows of the hall were, of course, all open. The narrow streets about the building were densely packed and we read that every window in the neighborhood, rented at high

prices, appeared to be a frame of human faces, while even the roofs of the adjacent buildings were crowded with people. So anxious were they to catch every note of the great cantatrice that the silence of this vast throng was so profound as to be almost painful. It is also seriously said that the "Echo Song" was distinctly heard at the corner of Clinton and Andrews streets and again on Elm street. There were no trolleys then! On the day between the two concerts Jenny Lind was induced to visit the studio of Appleby, in the Arcade, where her daguerreotype was taken by that artist. If that picture is still in existence it should be owned by the Historical Society. After each concert the fair singer, about whom the town was fairly mad, was called out upon the balcony of the Eagle again and again and gracefully bowed her acknowledgements to the enthusiastic and cheering thousands.

There is an interesting fact in connection with the history of the second concert, one with which, probably, very few are familiar. The premium realized from the sale of the seats, over and above the regular price of the tickets, was presented by Jenny Lind to the charities of the city. It amounted to a little over \$2,500, and was distributed among the Female Charitable Society, the Rochester Orphan Asylum, the Catholic Orphan Asylum, Home for the Friendless, German Lutheran Church, and the Cartmen's and Firemen's Benevolent Associations. The Female Charitable Society received the largest amount, \$800, and this sum formed the foundation of the permanent endowment of that noble charity. For a number of years it was kept separately and was known as the Jenny Lind fund, but it was finally merged in the permanently invested endowment of the society. So that, in each of the forty-three years that have elapsed since that concert, a number of the deserving poor and sick of our city have received benefit and relief therefrom and will continue to do so through all the years to come. It is a noble and lasting monument to the memory of that gifted artiste.

Passing, rapidly now, over the first appearance of Matilda Heron and Sir William Don. in October, a brilliant concert by

Catharine Hayes, in November, we come to a concert by the wonderful Miss Greenfield, the Black Swan. The fame achieved by her in the east had reached here, and a card was published inviting her to appear in Rochester, signed by Levi A. Ward, D. M. Dewey, M. F. Reynolds, Freeman Clarke, Wm. H. Perkins, Isaac Butts and others. In response to this call she sang here May the 8th. Following, came the first troupe of Bohemian Glass Blowers, Whipple's Dissolving Views, just coming in with the perfecting of photography; Donetti's wonderful troupe of trained animals, which have never to be forgotten Louis Jullien with that grand orchestra: the strawberry festival, as a distinct function, came into life in 1852. We come to another great concert by Ole Bull, at Corinthian Hall this time, on the 13th of November. This concert was under the management of Strakosch, and was distinguished by the first appearance of Adelina Patti, then eight years old. She sang "Comin' Thro' the Rye," several operatic selections, and the "Echo Song." The Advertiser chronicles the fact that "She is a better singer than nine-tenths of the grown ladies that have sung in public," and predicts a future for her.

The next week a grand concert by Madame Emma Bostwick, assisted by Henri Appy, late solo violinist to the king of Holland. The advertisement says, "Appy is unquestionably a violinist of talent, but he lacks that refined finish which time and study will give him." Time and study have certainly fulfilled that prophecy. On December 2nd came the great Madame Marietta Alboni with Ardit. At a delightful concert given the February following, by one who long held a secure place in the hearts of all Rochesterians, Miss Marion McGregor, Joseph Burke, the violinist, again appeared, and, in June, under the lead of Strakosch, came a memorable evening of song, Madame Steffenone, whose career was as brilliant as it was brief, assisted by Amalia Patti and the youthful violinist, Paul Julien, then but eleven years old.

From this date until the time that I have fixed in my mind as a stopping point, the Siamese Twins came and went—

together. P. T. Barnum gave a lecture for the benefit of the Female Charitable Society. Lola Montez lectured. The Peak Family of Swiss Bell Ringers appeared on the scene. Mrs. Macready gave a dramatic reading, and Bronson Alcott was heard in a transcendental exposition of "The Thusness of the May Be," or some kindred phase of the Concord School of Philosophy. Musically Ole Bull and Patti came twice, Little Adelina's skirts a little longer now and her voice growing in sweetness and power. The close of 1853 brought Madame Sontag with Paul Julien and Rocco. The next year came the never to be forgotten Louis Jullien, with that grand orchestra; Burke again, this time accompanied, his first appearance here, by Richard Hoffman, the pianist of our day. Then Parodi, twice again. Adelaide Phillips came soon after in one of her many farewell tours, which she continued until a very advanced age. This was closely followed by Madame La-Grange, with her first came Louis Gottschalk, that breaker of strings and hearts; Dempster's last visit; the Pyne & Harrison Opera Company, in July, 1856; then Thalberg, and to a more masterly touch than his, the ivory key never responded. He was accompanied by Theresa Parodi, Madame Patti, Nicola and Mollenhauer. That was an evening to be remembered! The record of this line of artists closes with the graceful outline, the sweet face, and the superb, resonant voice of Piccolomini, on the 16th day of February, 1859.

While we have thus lingered for several years in Exchange place, the drama was slowly but surely increasing its foothold in the St. Paul street house, the Metropolitan, under the successive management of Forrest & Co., Henry Grattan Plunkett and, finally, Wellington Meech; Charlotte Crampton, the Zavistowski troupe of children in spectacular plays, the Keller troupe, whose magnificent series of tableaux vivants, set upon a gigantic revolving platform, have never been surpassed, in this country at least, the superb Shower of Gold and the Bridge of the Amazons, in bronze, stand out as clear cut as the recollection of last night's dream. The Florences, now playing "Toodles," "The Serious Family" and "Born to Good Luck." Maggie Mitchell in her pre-Fanchon days, in

the "Wept of the Wish-ton-wish," saucy "Nan, the Good for Nothing," "The Pet of the Petticoats," "Satan in Paris," and "The French Spy." Mr. Neafie in "Richelieu" and the "Corsican Brothers." The first appearance of Edwin Booth in all those roles which he so long clothed with the personality of his great genius, the highest realization of American art. Matilda Heron came in Camille, that first venture, on this side of the ocean, into the clouded region of the modern French school. Then, again the great Cushman poured forth the rapturous wooings of Romeo beneath Juliet's balcony and again, as the weird and wrinkled Meg Merrilies, proclaimed "Bertram's right and Bertram's might on Ellangowan's height."

This is a remarkable record truly, differing vastly from those crude beginnings in the old Carroll street barn and causing even Dean's achievements to be lost to view. Yet, when all is said and the record closed, the greatest interest and the fondest recollections gather, and must ever center, while memory lingers, to the generation that is passing rapidly now from the scene, within the precincts of the old Corinthian Hall.

I very much doubt if anywhere in the world, certainly not in America, there are four walls standing, within which, at one time or another, have been seen and heard so many people distinguished in every branch of art, science, letters. Many of the great opera houses of the world have held more great singers, many theaters, more great players, many parliaments and senates, more great orators, but when we reflect that across that narrow platform, for more than a quarter of a century, every school of thought and action sent its choicest interpreters, the story of those years is truly a wonderful one.

Since I have been engaged upon this work, the wish has come to me many times that, with the potent wand of some mighty magician, we might conjure up from their resting places in the four quarters of the globe such of that long procession as have passed from the theater of human action, smooth away the wrinkles and the frosts of age from the brows of such as are still upon the scene of their triumphs,

and, constricting the setting of a vast scene, builded of the "stuff that dreams are made of," marshal in review, once more, all together in one grouping, that mighty host, singers and musicians, kings and queens of tragedy, sons and daughters of comedy, orators, soldiers, poets, statesmen, for one night only! the management confidently expressing the belief that such a bill was never before offered to a favored public! The audience re-peopled largely from that shadowy, silent land, are in their places. As the curtain rises upon the opening overture the leader's baton is taken up by Julian and Arditi, Gilmore and Thomas, for no one conductor dare handle so large an orchestra. At a tier of grand pianos sit Thalberg, Gottschalk, Leopold de Meyer, Wehli, Anna Mehlig, Von Bulow and Rubinstein. We glance along the row of first violins to see that Ole Bull, Vieuxtemps, Sivori, Burke, Camilla Urso, Withelmj, Wienawski and Appy are in their places. Levy and Arbuckle hold their cornets ready for the first note. Ryan's silvery head is seen bending above his clarionet, while back of these, are massed Dodsworth's, Jullien's and Gilmore's bands, Thomas' orchestra, the Mendelssohns and the old Philharmonies. The batons wave and then, there bursts forth a flood of the grandest harmony that the world has ever heard.

When this is done the orchestra retires and a simple reading desk is discovered, with branching gas-fixtures on either side, framing the figure of the speaker, while back of it, ranged in concentric semi-circles, sit the lecturers. Each orator must be limited by time to a single paragraph or epigram, each poet to a single couplet, and, as it is uttered, the speaker retires, until but one is left, one whose memory will be cherished while the English tongue is spoken. A strong, sad, thoughtful face, hair and beard marked with silvering lines, an eye full of sympathetie, human kindness. In his button-hole he wears a red rose and in his hand is a ribbon-marked volume. He opens it and reads and—again, we wander and lose our way on English meadows with Little Nell—again, with Pickwick we keep Yule-tide festival at Mr. Wardle's—Sam Weller and Bob Sawyer and the Marchioness have a new meaning for us now and ever after,

and we reverently bow our heads to the benediction of Tiny Tim—"a Merry Christmas to us all! God bless us, every one!"

The scene shifts. It is Commencement Day and we see the stalwart and venerated form of the old President, majestic in cap and gown, presenting little ribbon-tied rolls of parchment, accompanied by wise words of counsel, to a group of fledgelings before him, as they are about to go forth to conquer the earth.

As this scene fades, the benches are cleared away, the audience walking about, wear the costumes of thirty years ago, the outer circumference of the hall is lined with a brilliant row of richly decorated booths, in which appear a Congress of Nations, in bright costumes, the flower of Rochester's life in '63. It is the Soldier's Bazaar.

Again the floor is cleared, the booths have vanished and in their stead are long rows of tables ranged through the hall groaning beneath a weight of viands. The lady managers of the hospital board seem to be in charge. Yes, with tin box before her, at her little table yonder, near the door, sits the treasurer, receiving the willing offerings to our favorite charity. Captain Updike and Ham. Scranton are sharpening their carving knives, a bevy of pretty waitresses, in coquettish caps and aprons, are in attendance, and the gentlemen are coming in to spoil the symmetry of those fair tables. Ah, how many shoals of oysters, how many flocks of turkeys, what frost-covered mountains of cake, what vast glaciers of ice-cream were here consumed for sweet Charity's sake!

Now the tables are cleared, and, pouring in through the open doors, in motley groups with shout and song, come the merry maskers of the Maennerchor times—knights and harlequins, queens and peasants, Gambrinus and die Lorelei. Meyering leads the music and the dance is on.

As these sounds of revelry die on the ear, the audience is again seated—the curtain rises on a single scene of tragedy (for it must be getting late), with Forrest, Booth, Davenport, Wallack, Barrett and Salvini, Ristori and Jannauscheck, queenly Scott Siddons and Adelaide Neilson in the cast. Now comes a bit of comedy, in which Maggie Mitchell's shadow-dance and the mad pranks of quaint, winsome little Lotta

seem strangely interwoven with the Irish wit of Paddy Miles's Boy, and the droll philosophy of lazy Rip, in the village of Falling Waters.

Now that grand orchestra once more take their places and all is in readiness for the final chorus, which shall call into force the entire resources of this company of dream-children. Forth they come, from the misty world far beyond, through those familiar, faded hangings of red damask—Jenny Lind and Parodi, Alboni and LaGrange, Anna Bishop and Piccolomini, Isabella Hinkley and Steffenone, Christine Nilsson and Kellogg and Sontag. Then appears the generous form of Parepa with Zelda Seguin, led out by Castle and Sher, Campbell and Adelina Patti, staying with sisterly tenderness, the faltering steps of Carlotta. Here are Brignoli and Susini, Mario, Santley, Karl Formes, Campanini and Wachtel—until there is no longer room, even upon the stage of a dream. The musicians tune their instruments, again the baton falls, and, after the preliminary crash of the orchestra, there wells forth such a divine melody as hath not been since “the morning stars sang together.” The rolling tone-waves of the orchestra, as from the stops of some celestial organ and, high over all, the liquid sweetness of the Casta Diva—the plaintive cadence of the *Non ti scordar* of Brignoli’s Miserere, fading away to give place to the “Last Rose of Summer,” as Parepa, Castle, Campbell and Seguin come forward (who that heard it, will ever forget that last night of Martha?) Finally, all this melody merges and blends into one grand anthem, such as one might wish to hear when taking leave of earth, now as sweet as the rippling music of summer brooks, now rising and swelling, in giant crescendo, into surging, tumultuous billows of sound.

But, far too long, I fear, have I trespassed upon your patience; far too long have I kept the poor ghosts of these memories before you, and will dismiss them. As they vanish into the mists, of which they were born, the lights burn dim. Obedient to the prompter’s bell, the curtain slowly falls. The last notes of the music die away. The faltering echoes come fainter—and fainter still—and are lost—the play is done.

# Rochester; Its Founders and Its Founding

*By HOWARD L. OSGOOD*

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A distinction must be made between the first settlers within the present limits of our city and those who actually established it as a settlement. The first white settler on the site of Rochester was undoubtedly Ebenezer Allan, a man whose repute appears to have been wholly disrepute, and therefore is best when unknown. Before 1812, a few settlers lived near the Genesee Falls, but they certainly made no effort to establish a village, and had no influence upon the events here chronicled.

The persons who first planned a village here and induced settlers to immigrate to it, were Nathaniel Rochester, William Fitzhugh and Charles Carroll. The story of the manner in which these men became interested in the site of Rochester has been told many times, but, until now, was never, so far as the writer is aware, compiled from contemporary documents, independent of human memory.

The three gentlemen just mentioned were men of high character, accustomed to large business transactions.

Nathaniel Rochester was born in Westmoreland county, Virginia, on February 21, 1752. At the age of 16, his father having died and his mother having remarried, he was employed by a merchant at Hillsborough, Orange county, North Carolina, and from that time until his death was constantly and actively engaged in commercial affairs. During the Revolutionary war he was a resident of Hillsborough and was highly honored by his fellow citizens. In 1775, being then 23 years of age, he was a member of the committee of safety of Orange county, a member of the first provincial convention of North Carolina, a justice of the peace, a major of militia (commissioned September 9, 1775), and pay master

of the battalion of minute men in that district (commissioned October 20, 1775). In April, 1776, he was made lieutenant colonel of militia and in May of the same year was elected a member of the convention which formulated and adopted the constitution of his state. In the same year (May 11th), he was appointed deputy commissary general of military and other stores in North Carolina for the use of the Continental army with the rank and pay of colonel. A severe illness then compelled him to retire from further service in the field. But he was not allowed to cast off public duties, for he was elected member of assembly, clerk of the court of Orange county and was appointed a commissioner to establish and superintend a manufactory of arms at Hillsborough for the Continental army. In 1778 he became a business partner of Colonel Thomas Hart, whose daughter afterward married Henry Clay. For the following five years he was engaged in trade in Hillsborough and in Philadelphia, and at the close of the war he removed to Hagerstown, Maryland, where Colonel Hart then resided, and there established a considerable mercantile business and built and operated manufactories of nails and of rope, besides a flour mill. His partners were, Colonel Hart in the rope and nail business, and in the flour mill, Captain Daniel Stull. His business operations were extended even into Kentucky and West Tennessee. In 1788 he married Sophia Beatty of Frederick, Md. In 1790 he was elected a member of the Maryland legislature. In the succeeding year he was appointed postmaster at Hagerstown and in 1797 became one of the three judges of the Washington county court. He held the postmastership until 1804, when he resigned to accept his election as sheriff of Washington county, and held that office until 1807, when he became the first president of the Hagerstown bank, with all the affluence which came from a salary of one thousand dollars a year when applied to the support of a large family. This position he retained as long as he lived in Maryland. In 1808 he was appointed an elector of President and Vice-President of the United States from Maryland. Dansville, then in Steuben, but now in Livingston, county, N. Y., became his home in May,

1810. In January, 1814, he sold his property at Dansville, comprising a grist mill, a saw mill, seven hundred acres of land, an interest in a wool carding shop, and the first paper mill in Western New York, for \$24,000, and moved in April, 1815, to a farm in East Bloomfield, Ontario county. In 1816 he was again appointed a presidential elector. In April, 1818, he came to Rochester. In 1821 he succeeded in procuring the erection of the county of Monroe and was immediately appointed county clerk. In 1822 he sat in the New York legislature and two years later he became the president of the Bank of Rochester, the first bank in this city. He died May 17, 1831, honored and lamented, having lived a life of great service to his fellow men.

Colonel William Fitzhugh was born in Calvert county, Maryland, October 6, 1761. He was an officer in the Continental army under General Nathaniel Green in his southern campaigns; and, for a time, he, and his brother Peregrine, were employed as aides on Washington's personal staff. He afterwards drew a pension for his services. His father's estate was on the eastern shore of the Chesapeake, near the mouth of the Patuxent river and was much exposed to the incursions of the enemy during the war. After the war, Colonel Fitzhugh, having inherited a considerable property, settled upon a large estate near Hagerstown, Maryland, and was elected to the legislature of that state. He moved to the town of Groveland, Livingston county, in May, 1816, the emigrant party consisting of forty persons and Conestoga wagons drawn by twenty-seven horses. He died at his home, "Hampton," on December 29, 1839. He was a hospitable, elegant, courtly, dignified, Christian gentleman.

Charles Carroll was born upon his father's estate at Carrollsburg, Maryland (now the site of the national capital), on November 7, 1767. He became a large land holder and a man of extended activity in commercial matters. His home was Bellevue, on Georgetown Heights, Maryland. He was known as Charles Carroll of Bellevue to distinguish him from his cousin Charles, of Carrollton. He came to the town of Groveland, Livingston county, in the spring of 1815, and made

a new home at Williamsburg. In 1818 he was appointed United States register of deeds for the territory of Missouri, with an office at Franklin, and resided there for some years. The wanton murder of his son at that place caused him to return with his family to Williamsburg, where he lived for the remainder of his life, and died October 28, 1823. He was distinguished in family, honorable at all times, cultivated and a host whose house was always open to his friends. The family home after his death was at the "Hermitage," about three miles south of Williamsburg.

Messrs. Carroll and Fitzhugh never lived in Rochester.

In the year 1799, Charles Carroll, of Bellevue, and his brother, Daniel Carroll, of Duddington, made a trip of observation through the Genesee country, but made no purchase of land. In this year Colonel Peregrine Fitzhugh moved to Geneva and a few years later made a home at Sodus.

In the month of September, 1800, Charles Carroll, William Fitzhugh, and Nathaniel Rochester came to Western New York, leaving Hagerstown on horseback, followed by a mounted negro servant leading a pack horse to carry their baggage. They started for the purpose of finding a suitable country in which to settle. Colonel Rochester had already invested in lands in Tennessee and Kentucky and, in the summer previous to the journey just mentioned, he had been into Ohio looking for a free country where his family could be reared away from the influences of slavery.

The three friends crossed the Maryland line in Pennsylvania, passed through Shippensburg and Carlisle, thence along the road on the west bank of the Susquehanna to its juncture with Lycoming creek, at Williamsport, and there took the Charles Williamson road to the Genesee. They climbed the mountains to Blossburg (then Bloss's), then passed down the Tioga river to Painted Post, then up the Conhocton, through Bath, crossed over to Judge Hornell's (now Hornellsville), then through Dansville to Williamsburg. At Williamsburg there was a small settlement, composed of a tavern and a few houses, the remnants of Charles Williamson's projected

great city. Of Williamsburg not a trace now remains; even its ruins are no more.

In passing through Dansville (named after Captain Dan Faulkner), Colonel Rochester was struck with the advantages of the water power and purchased one hundred and twenty acres at that place, including the most desirable mill seats on both sides of the Canaseraga.

At Williamsburg our travelers looked across that beautiful valley over the famous Genesee flats and were delighted with the beauty of the situation and the fertility of the soil. Colonel Fitzhugh and Major Carroll bought of Charles Williamson, at \$2 per acre, twelve thousand acres, lying partly on the eastern slope of the valley and partly upon the flats on both sides of Canaseraga creek. Colonel Rochester also purchased a small farm of four hundred acres near the lands bought by his friends.

The friends returned to Maryland and reached Hagerstown about the 12th of October. In 1801 Carroll and Fitzhugh again came to the Genesee country and made further purchases; Colonel Rochester set out with them, but illness compelled him to turn back. This trip was taken between October 7th and November 12th. In August and September, 1802, Colonel Fitzhugh and Colonel Rochester again visited their purchases, but without Major Carroll.

It has been the universal statement that these three friends purchased the One hundred Acre Tract (the nucleus of our city), in this year, 1802, but such is not the fact. In this year Major Carroll did not visit this region, and his own signature appears on the contract of sale, dated November 8, 1803.

The circumstances of the purchase were as follows: About the 7th of October, Rochester, Carroll and Fitzhugh left Hagerstown for the Genesee, visited their former purchases, went to Geneva to make payments at the land office, and turned their faces homeward. But Mr. Johnston, the land agent at Geneva, learning that they were interested in water powers in Maryland, called their attention to the fine power at the Genesee falls. They then agreed with him that they

would go to the upper falls and examine the property, and would meet Mr. Johnston at Bath to give their answer.

Rochester, Carroll and Fitzhugh, coming by the rough woods road from Canandaigua, crossed the river on horse-back, not without trepidation, at the slippery ford a little north of the present mill dam.

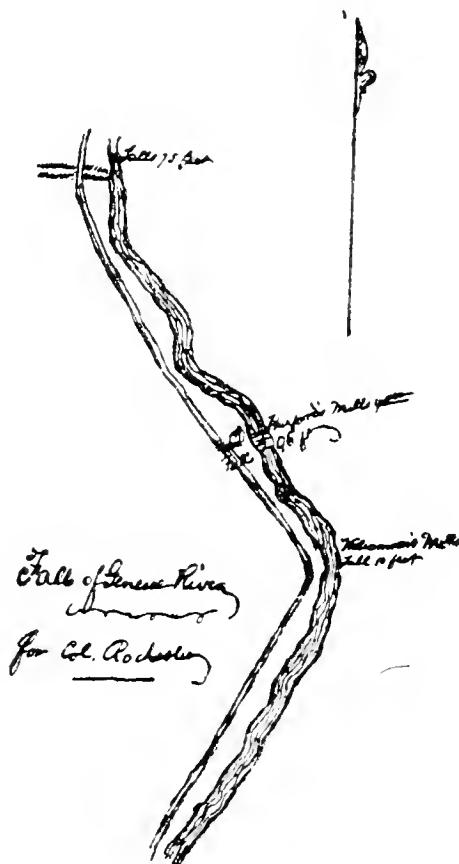
The upper falls (or rather an extended cascade) stretched across the river about where the aqueduct is now situated, and were of a total vertical height of about fourteen feet. They were blasted away to make room for the aqueducts and a water passage under them and there is now only a continuous rapids. On the west side of the river, extending up stream from the top of the falls, was a small island separated from the west bank by a narrow channel, thus providing a natural race-way. From this channel the water was led in a rude flume to the old Allan mill on the flats below. Ebenezer Allan, in the fall of 1789, had built two mills, first a saw mill and second a grist mill. The spring freshet of 1803 had carried away the saw mill and had seriously undermined the grist mill.

Our travelers rode through the forest along the portage leading to King's landing, below the lower falls, until they looked down upon the old mill, now almost in ruins, and, descending the sloping bank entered the little log house under the present site of E. R. Andrews's printing house. The mill was inhabited then only by the ubiquitous rattle-snake, whose meditations were seldom interrupted except by some settler whose family had become tired of the continuous succession of pork and mush, hominy and bacon, and had demanded a feast of real wheat bread.

No more than one-half an acre was cleared of the trees; the stumps still remained; and the tangle of briars, grape vines and saplings in the clearing was broken only by the narrow and thorny path to the mill. What a scene of desolation! An abandoned log house, the roof broken in, the door awry, wild raspberry shoots obstructing the entrance, and a rattlesnake to greet the traveler. Inside the building were the little mill stones, and the primitive, dilapidated

machinery; the floor was broken and decayed; and the porcupines had gnawed the bunks, window sills and benches. Under the mill was a little tub wheel, patched almost beyond repair; and the flume from the fall no longer held water.

Oliver Phelps bought 184,320 acres from the Indians for a mill lot; of this amount Allan obtained 100 acres to build



PORTRAGE ALONG RIVER

the mill upon; and one half an acre was more than enough to clear, both for the foundation and for the timber to build the mill.

But these travelers had not come to examine the aesthetics of the place. They found a fall capable of producing great power and easy to adapt to commercial purposes. The land near the river was elevated above the ordinary stages of water, there were two great falls lower down the river, settlements were advancing to the neighborhood, and there

seemed to be evidence that the water power and the one hundred acres of land would be worth the \$1,750 at which they were offered. They decided to purchase the mill lot; and then and there began the germ of Rochester.

The friends left the mill and, returning to the portage, traveled along the west side of the river to King's (now Hanford's) landing and arranged with Gideon King to care for the mill in consideration of having its use. They then turned back and traveled through New Hartford, Big Tree, Williamsburg and Dansville, to Bath. At Bath they met Mr. Johnston and, on November 8, 1803, an agreement was there executed, between Mr. Johnston, as the agent (under Robert Troup) for Sir William Pulteney, on the one part, and Carroll, Fitzhugh and Rochester, on the other part. That agreement is as follows:

A CONTRACT, Made the eighth day of November, in the year one thousand eight hundred and three—Between Charles Carroll, William Fitzhugh, and Nathaniel Rochester, of the county of Washington, and state of Maryland, esquires, of the first part—and Sir William Pulteney, of the county of Middlesex, in the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, baronet, by John Johnston, his attorney, by virtue of a Letter of Substitution bearing date the first day of February, in the year one Thousand eight hundred and two, from Robert Troup, esquire, the attorney of the said Sir William Pulteney, by virtue of a letter of attorney, bearing date the 29th day of July, in the year one thousand eight hundred and one, and recorded in the secretary's office of the state of New York, in lib. deeds endorsed M. R. N., page 409, etc., of the second part, as follows, (to wit) First—The said Sir William Pulteney agrees to sell to the said Charles Carroll, William Fitzhugh, and Nathaniel Rochester all that certain tract of land in township number one in the short range on the west side of the Genesee river in the county of Genesee (late Ontario) and state of New York, being the tract commonly known and designated as the Genesee falls mill lot and containing one hundred acres together with all the privileges and advantages of the waters thereon and the mills thereon erected.

Secondly—The said Charles Carroll, William Fitzhugh and Nathaniel Rochester agree to pay for the said tract of land and mills the sum of one thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars in manner following, (that is to say) the sum of three hundred and fifty dollars on the first of May next and the remainder in four equal annual payments thereafter with interest from the first day of May next.

Thirdly—The said William Pulteney agrees that immediately after the full payment of the said purchase money, in manner above particularly appointed, he the said Sir William Pulteney will execute, and cause to be delivered to the said Charles Carroll, William Fitzhugh and Nathaniel Rochester a good and sufficient warranty deed for the said tract of land and mills, with the appurtenances.

In witness whereof, the said party of the first part, and the said Sir William Pulteney, by his said attorney, John Johnston, by virtue of the letter of substitution aforesaid, have hereunto set their hands and seals, on the day and in the year first above written.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of John Taylor.

*William Pulteney Esq*  
by his atty J Johnston

*Ch. Carroll*

*Wm. Fitzhugh Esq*

*N Rochester Esq*

(ENDORSED)

It is agreed by the parties to the within contract that in case the within mentioned mills are destroyed by fire or any other casualty the loss arising therefrom shall be borne wholly by the said Charles Carroll, William Fitzhugh and Nathaniel Rochester and in no degree by Sir William Pulteney.

— N. ROCHESTER  
CH. CARROLL  
WM. FITZHUGH

Having concluded these arrangements, they traveled homeward, reaching Hagerstown about November 20th. On this trip they were accompanied by a young Marylander named Thomas Begole, who, in the following spring, was sent back to the Genesee country by Colonel Rochester to take charge of property there. He was instructed to go to the Falls in order to see that the mill was properly cared for by Mr. King, but finding that King had died, he put Salmon Fuller in charge. Fuller made sufficient repairs upon the mill to be able to operate it and occupied it in 1805. In 1806 the mill was destroyed, either by a fire or a freshet, and Mr. Fuller incontinently took the mill stones and machinery to his own new mill on Irondequoit creek. The mill is gone; even its site is buried; the rattlesnake has departed; but the mill stones came back and are still with us.

The three proprietors of the One Hundred Acre Tract remained in Maryland for several years without visiting their Genesee property. In the spring of 1809, however, Colonel Rochester came to Dansville to make arrangements for removing his family to that place, and brought with him his sons, William B. and John C. Rochester. His saw mill and grist mill were to be repaired and put in condition for active operation, a paper mill was to be furnished and his farm needed care. The father soon returned to Maryland, but left his sons in charge of his property until autumn.

On March 30th, in this year, the legislature of New York passed an act providing for the "building of a bridge across the Genesee river between the towns of Boyle and Northampton at the place where the north state road crosses the said Genesee river," and authorizing the supervisors of Ontario and Genesee counties to raise the sum of two thousand dollars (\$2,000), for that purpose; one half to be raised in 1809 and one-half in 1810.

In May, 1810, Colonel Rochester brought his family to Dansville. Mrs. Carroll and Mrs. Fitzhugh up to this time had declined to live on the wild frontier of Western New York, and did not give their consent to leave Maryland until four years later.

The road from Hagerstown to Dansville was about two hundred and seventy-five miles in length and the family were over three weeks in reaching their destination. The train was composed of two carriages, six or seven riding horses for the father and his sons, and two or three large baggage wagons hauled by four horses each. With them came two or three young men from Hagerstown, and a half dozen negroes. The journey was arduous, not to say dangerous. A traveler who had passed over this road across the mountains only a few years before, had recorded that it was so poorly cut out that it looked as if the trees had been gnawed off by beavers and that he was often in danger of being mired. Probably at the time when Colonel Rochester was making this journey the road had been somewhat improved, but those of you who have traveled through a backwoods country and

over corduroy bridges, have seen the propriety of providing the horses with means of aquatic, arborial, and terrestrial locomotion.

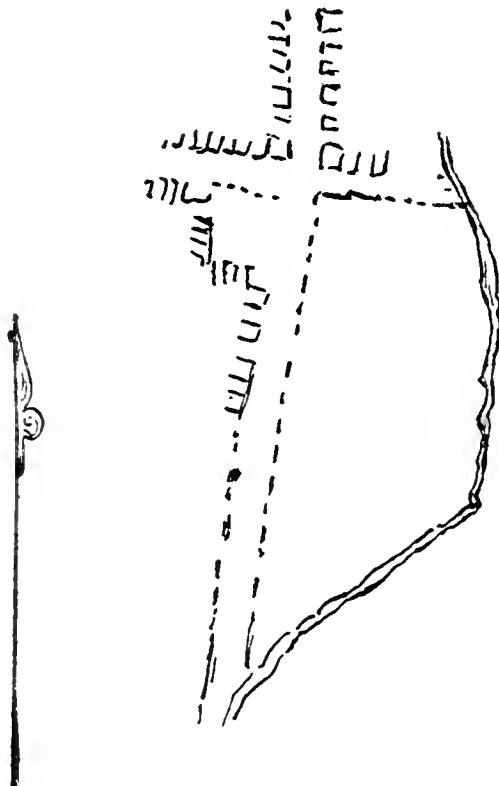
The caravan finally reached Dansville in safety, except that one teamster was thrown from his wagon in crossing the mountains and was killed. The survivors reached Dansville on June 10th, 1810, and the family put up at Stout's tavern until their home should be prepared.

After Colonel Rochester's arrival in Dansville, the settlement of his family and the details of conducting his business took his time to the exclusion of attention to the Falls property, and during the remainder of this year his sawmill, grist mill, paper mill and wool-carding shop made such heavy drafts upon his purse and his time that he became discouraged about his ability to retain his interest in the Falls lot and offered to sell it to his friend Carroll, but Major Carroll magnanimously declined to buy, saying: "Hold on and it's an estate for any man."

Colonel Rochester in reply wrote to Charles Carroll. "Dansville, January 13, 1811. . . . . I return you my sincere thanks for your advice to keep my Genesee Falls estate. I am aware of the growing value of that property and although I am not so sanguine as you are about its future value, yet I believe the time is not distant when it will be worth \$15,000 or \$5,000 a share. I have been applied to for building lots there and there is no doubt of there soon being a village there and much business done if lots could be had. It must become a town of great business at some future period."

The commencement of the bridge, where the present Main street bridge stands, settled the importance of property at the falls. The nearest bridge was at Avon, and the country west and northwest of the falls was being placed on the market. The progress of the bridge and the rapid immigration of settlers forced Colonel Rochester, in the summer of 1811, to take steps to lay out a village on the mill lot. He had a knowledge of surveying and in July began to stake out some lots among the trees and in the bogs on the property.

Enos Stone, in the previous year, had brought his family to the falls and had begun housekeeping in a little shanty on the bank of the river near the east end of the ford. Colonel Rochester appointed Mr. Stone his local agent and promised him a good lot in the prospective village for his services. The



FIRST MAP OF ROCHESTER

first lots surveyed were those about the corners made by the new state road which followed substantially the present lines of Main and State streets, and led to the Big Ridge road to Niagara and Buffalo. The Powers block lot was the first one laid out. The lines of Buffalo (now West Main street) and of Mill street (now Exchange), were determined and at first a large lot on the corner now occupied by Smith's Arcade, was set apart for a public square. Some fifty lots in all, of one-quarter of an acre each, were staked out, and Mr. Stone was directed to offer them for sale. Advertisements were soon inserted in the Canandaigua and Geneva newspapers and applicants began to appear.

William Scott, then of Dansville, gave this account of Colonel Rochester at this period:

About this time (1811) Colonel Rochester was making a visit every few weeks to the "Falls," as Rochester was yet called, to superintend the laying out of village lots. On his way home from a collecting tour I met him returning from one of these trips, at Begole's Tavern, a little log house standing about fifty rods northeast of the residence of the late Judge Carroll. I see him now, riding up to the door, seated firmly on a small bay pacing mare, and carrying his surveyor's chain and compass strapped to the saddle. After a well cooked supper to which our sharp appetites did full justice, we were shown to a room in the garret containing one bed.

. . . We occupied it together, though it was long before sleep visited us, for Colonel Rochester was full of the flattering prospects at the Falls. "The place must become an important business point," said he, and he expressed regret that he had spent so much time and means in Dansville, instead of going to the Falls at once, adding, "If I had just made over to you by gift a deed of all my property at Dansville, and gone direct to the Falls, I should have been the gainer. Dansville will be a fine village, but the Falls, sir, is capable of great things." I reminded him that he had established a paper mill and other machinery at Dansville and had otherwise aided in giving an impetus to the business of that already thrifty town. "Yes," said he, "but I am past the age of building up two towns." During the conversation I remarked that the name, the "Falls," was good enough then, but added, "of course you will find a more fitting one as the place increases." "Ah," said he "I have already thought of that, and have decided to give it my family name," and that was the first time I ever heard the word "Rochester", applied to the present prosperous city.

Colonel Rochester was a fine type of the true Southern gentleman. His manner was commanding. He was then venerable in years, though his step was firm. He was tall, perhaps quite six feet high, stooped a little and always walked with a cane. He was dignified and affable in ordinary intercourse, though somewhat austere to strangers.

The name "Rochester" was given to the village by request of Messrs. Carroll and Fitzhugh.

On October 30, 1811, Rochester writes to his partners: "Great quantities of wheat are now going from Bloomfield, Charles Town, Hartford, Boyle, etc., etc., to the mouth of the Genesee river for want of mills to flour it and most of it goes through our village and more will as soon the bridge is finished which will be by the middle of December unless winter sets in earlier than usual. . . . I have sold a few lots on Mill, Carroll and Buffalo streets at \$50. . . . and have no doubt but that a dozen houses will be erected next season. . . . I have raised all the unsold lots on

Carroll and Mill streets to \$50 and sell the back lots at \$30. After next season when a mill and several houses are erected we can raise the price of the lots. . . . . The lots sold and bespoken are Nos. 1, 2, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 45, 59, 60." .

The last payment for the mill lot was made on June 22, 1808; the lot was surveyed and its boundaries determined November 7, 1811; and a deed was given November 18th following.

To his brother-in-law, Elie Beatty, he writes under date November 19, 1811: "I have been to the falls of the Genesee lately and laid out and sold some more lots say about twenty-five in all, and, for want of funds to build a good merchant mill there, I have leased a mill seat for ten years which will contribute very much to the improvement of the town and neighborhood. . . . Could I sell one of my mill seats there I would soon be settled at the falls myself. My business is very good here, but would be much more productive at the falls or village of Rochester."

The first lot sold was No. 26, to Enos Stone on November 20, 1811, for \$50. George L. Whitmore and Daniel Tinker, of Pittsford, on December 29, 1811, bought lots 37 and 38 for \$100: and on February 19, 1812, the third sale was made to Henry Skinner, of Geneseo, who bought lot No. 1 (the Powers block corner) for \$200, and he was required to "build and erect a dwelling house on the said lot not less than thirty by twenty feet, with brick or stone chimney, said house to be raised and enclosed on or before the first day of January next (1813) and finished within six months thereafter."

This requirement was inserted in all the early contracts in order to secure the immigration of the purchasers and to prevent, as far as possible, mere land speculation. One can imagine the trepidation of Mr. Skinner when he agreed to erect so palatial a structure in the backwoods, at a place where, only two years before, a member of assembly had said in debate that, if a bridge were placed at the falls, only the muskrats would use it. But the bridge was completed early in 1812 and results soon followed.

Mr. Skinner in 1812 built a residence "with a brick or stone chimney" on the tract, and his friend, Hamlet Scrantom, was its first occupant. In this year Francis Brown, Matthew Brown, Jr., and Thomas Mumford laid out the village of Frankfort adjoining the one hundred acres on the north and soon had a grist mill in operation, but settlers preferred the neighborhood of the bridge and Frankfort did not begin to grow till after 1820.

In 1812, thirteen lots, in all, were sold by Colonel Rochester; in 1813, twenty-seven lots; in 1814 only one lot, largely on account of the pendency of the war of 1812 and the activity of British operations against the lake frontiers. (You will remember that on May 14, 1814, the village and its "suburbs" could furnish only thirty-three men to repel the British, and that there were then only twenty houses at the place). In 1815, thirty-two lots were sold; after which time sales became much more rapid.

In 1813 Elisha Ely had applied to Enos Stone for water privileges and Mr. Stone wrote to Mr. Rochester on June 13th:

"Dear Sir: At the request of Mr. Ely, the bearer of this letter, I would inform you that his wishes are to erect water works on your land at this village by a lease, if you think proper to encourage him. I think it would be an advantage to the settlement of the place if a dam from the west side of the race to the river was made, that mills might be built and not injure your principal mill seat. The wishes of Mr. Ely are such that he thought proper to call on you and, if you think proper, contract with him as Mr. Reynolds is acquainted with him. I think Mr. Ely would be a suitable man to engage and would help the settlement of the place."

An arrangement was made with Mr. Ely, the terms of which do not appear, and he immediately dug a raceway, the first artificial one upon the tract, and built a saw mill which began running on December 14, 1813, though no actual business was done in it until April first, following. In 1814 and 1815, Mr. Ely built a grist mill on the tract and Colonel Rochester writes in a characteristic manner to Mr. Fitzhugh from Dansville, June 18th, 1814: . . . "I have been to

the Falls since you left us and given Mr. Ely a lease conformably to your and Major Carroll's proposition to him. He will proceed to erect a good merchant mill. I did not mention, at the time you made the offer to Mr. Ely, that his erecting mills there would prevent me from doing it for some time, as his and Captain Brown's mills will be enough for that place for some time. . . . I knew you and Major Carroll did not suppose it would have the effect of frustrating my plans, because I have every reason to believe you would have preferred my building the mills to his doing it, from your uniform friendship to me for more than twenty years and because my removal to that place and laying out six or eight thousand dollars there would have contributed fully as much to the advantage of the place as his laying it out, who is already an inhabitant. Should peace take place before next spring I shall probably settle in our village at that time."

And to Mr. Carroll he writes: "I went to the falls about three weeks after you left us and gave Captain Ely a lease for a mill seat agreeably to your and Colonel Fitzhugh's proposition to him. . . . The same sense of delicacy prevented my saying anything to you about it until the lease was executed to Ely, but it frustrates my plan of erecting a mill and removing to the Falls until a peace takes place, as Brown's and Ely's mills will be sufficient for that place until we have peace. Then I believe half a dozen mills will not be too many. I saw Captain Ely at the Falls on Thursday last; he had just returned from Massachusetts where he had been for carpenters, millwrights, etc. He intended commencing this day with about fifteen workmen and said he would have his mill at work by the 1st of December next. There is very little improvement going on at the Falls, not more than three or four houses building. If the war continues longer than next spring my present intention is to purchase or rent a mill in Ontario or Genesee counties in order to have something to do until the end of the war when I shall most certainly settle at the Falls if I live so long."

In 1814, Carroll and Fitzhugh made their first visit to the Genesee country since the purchase of the mill lot and

then agreed with Colonel Rochester concerning an ultimate division of that property among the partners. In 1815, Mr. Carroll moved his family to Williamsburgh and in 1816 Mr. Fitzhugh followed him. But the labor of marketing the joint property had fallen entirely on Colonel Rochester, and to him belongs the greater part of the credit of founding this city.

He reported to his friends on July 28, 1816: "Our books show that I have been to the Falls and to Geneva twenty-three times on our joint business and most of those times when I resided in Dansville. I have done all the surveying except part of a day last summer when I had a surveyor. I have frequently been detained two and three days at a time, . . . . and had to entertain many people (particularly when I resided at Dansville) who called on me to purchase lots, making enquiry about the village, etc. It is five years this month since I laid out about fifty lots."

In August, 1817, a partition of the One Hundred Acre tract was made and the different lots were distributed among the proprietors in severalty.

Some years later Colonel Rochester told the story of the founding of this city in a letter to his half brother, John G. Critcher:

"Rochester, State of New York, August 15, 1825. . . . In the spring of 1800 having six children then living. . . . I concluded that it would be best for them that I should remove to the west where more could be done for them, than in an old settled country.

. . . I therefore visited the northwestern territory (now Ohio), Kentucky and Tennessee with a view to purchasing an eligible situation for my family. I returned in August with a determination to remove to Kentucky, but on my return home two of my neighbors and most intimate friends were about to visit this part of the state of New York which had been but recently settled. They prevailed on me to come with them. I then saw the great advantages this country had over the Southwestern states and we all purchased with a determination to remove here as soon as we could close our business in Maryland. They were very wealthy men and purchased 12,000 acres of the best land in the country and I purchased about 500 acres on which were several good mill seats. On our return home, the families of my two friends were very much opposed to removing to this country and I did not like to come without them. . . . until May, 1810, when I removed to this country and built a grist mill, paper mill and saw mill at Dansville, about forty miles from this place, where I resided five years, when I sold there and purchased a very valuable farm about twenty miles from hence where I resided during the late war and until seven years ago, when I

removed to this place and rented out my farm. Two years after my first visit and purchase in this country, say in 1802, my two neighbors and friends and I visited this country again to see our first purchases, when we purchased 100 acres of land at the falls of Genesee river for which we gave seven hundred pounds. The whole of this 100 acres has been laid out in streets, allies, and quarter acre lots and pretty much covered with buildings, together with as much more adjoining, which is included in the village (what is called a town in the south). In 1811, the year after my removal to this country I laid out a village here and in 1812 several small houses were built, but the war commencing and being rather exposed to the incursions of the enemy very few improvements were made until the close of the war in 1815.

Since then the village has had the most rapid growth perhaps of any place in the United States and now contains 5,000 inhabitants and is now improving more rapidly than at any former period. Not only the site of the village, but the country about it was all a wilderness in 1811, but is now a thickly settled country that turned out from ten to twelve thousand persons who met General Lafayette here on the 10th of June last. There can be no doubt but that Rochester will be one of the greatest manufacturing places in the United States. It embraces more local advantages than any place I have ever seen and I have visited almost all the states. The land for 100 miles in every direction is of the finest quality. The grand canal from Albany to Lake Erie runs through the center of the village. All the land carriage to the whole shores of Lake Ontario is but two miles. The Genesee river, which runs through the center of the village north and south is navigable forty miles to the south and the canal opens a water communication to all the shores of Lakes Erie, Huron, Michigan, and Superior, and their navigable streams; and within two miles of where I now write there are at least 500 seats for water works, a great number of which are now occupied for merchant mills, saw mills, fulling mills, paper mills, oil mills, cotton and woolen factories, nail factories, furnaces, etc., etc. All strangers are astonished at the rapid growth of the village and the quantity of business done in it. It is a thoroughfare for an immense number of travelers from all quarters, east, west, north and south, and many from Europe, to see the canal, the aqueduct across the Genesee river and the Falls of Niagara and it is on the route from the New England states to the west and southwestern states. . . . My third of the 100 acres of land purchased at this place is now worth one hundred thousand dollars exclusive of the houses thereon, but in order to get it settled I sold the lots very low."

Much honor is due to all those other sturdy men who developed the village of Rochester: but their history is not pertinent to the founding of the village or city, in the exact meaning of that word.

The village of Rochesterville was incorporated April 21, 1817, by an act of the legislature: and the founding of Rochester was accomplished.

# History of the Third Ward

By CHARLES F. POND

*Read before The Rochester Historical Society, April 19, 1895*

A lady who has lived for nearly fifty years in that portion of our fair city known far and near as the Third Ward, who has traveled extensively over our own and foreign lands, once made the remark that in all her travels, although she had visited and admired many most delightful and attractive cities, she had nowhere seen another Rochester and in none of them a Third Ward. After living very close to a half-century, myself, in the same house in said ward, and having seen most of the cities of our own country, I am prepared to agree with the aforesaid lady friend.

The village was originally sub-divided into five school districts or wards. The Third consisted of all that portion lying west of the Genesee River and south of the Erie canal and Buffalo street. In 1834, when the village was incorporated as a city, Jonathan Child was the first Mayor, and Dr. F. F. Backus and Jacob Thorn were the first Aldermen of the Third Ward.

In 1844 the city was divided into nine wards, and the Eighth Ward was taken off the west and south sides of the Third; so that today, while it has grown in wealth and population, it is only about one-third the size it was in 1844, or 50 years ago.

As examples of the changes in values, let me cite a few illustrations. In 1836, the total assessed valuation of real and personal property in the Third Ward was \$527,185, and the tax \$2,457.92, while in 1894, the assessed value was \$6,476,125 and the tax \$108,472.66, or an increase in value of over twelve times and in tax of almost fifty times. For instance, the Isaac Hills homestead was valued by the assessors in 1836 at \$3,000, in 1894 at \$15,000. The Jacob Gould homestead, now owned and occupied by Dr. C. E. Rider, at \$2,800 in 1836, and \$13,000 in 1894.

Speaking of the "old homesteads," how sad it seems to see them go into decay. There on Exchange street, just south of Spring street, stands the original homestead of Col. Nathaniel Rochester, subsequently occupied by Jonathan Child, his son-in-law, the first mayor of our city, its glory departed, once the home of culture and generous hospitality, now dismantled and in disrepute; while a little further south, the home of A. G. Smith, one of the first grocers and founders of the old established firm of Smith, Perkins & Co., is doing noble service for humanity as the home for the Industrial School. But many of the houses of fifty, sixty, and even seventy years ago, are still occupied as dwellings and keeping up their pristine glory. The house on the northeast corner of Spring and Fitzhugh streets was the home of Dr. Frederick F. Backus and, for many years, of Dr. M. M. Mathews. It seems but a short time since the well in Dr. Mathews' yard supplied the greater part of the water used in the shops and business places in that part of the town, its principal rival being the covered well in the yard of S. D. Porter on the southeast corner of the same streets, this being originally the homestead of Everard Peck, both among the earliest booksellers of the place, men who left their favorable mark on all things with which they had to do, men of strong characters, who helped to establish the orphan asylum and other charities that have so blest our city. And on the northwest corner of the same streets, built in 1834 and now occupied by Dr. Rider, is the homestead of General Jacob Gould, one of the early mayors, who with his brother, Samuel P. Gould, were among the first shoe dealers, while next north lived Ebenezer Watts, hardware dealer, and next the house of William B. Rochester, a son of the Colonel, occupied since 1846 by Mrs. Henry Benton, a daughter of Gen. Gould.

But the fact is, that South Fitzhugh street has a history by itself. I have heard Dr. Moore assert that he doubted if any locality or street could show such vitality and longevity. There were living there at one time Mrs. Marshall, Joseph Field and wife, Preston Smith, Mrs. Ephraim Moore, Lindly Murray Moore, Edmund Lyon, Mrs. Frederick Whittlesey,

Abelard Reynolds and wife, and others, in age ranging from 80 to 100 years. Who will ever forget the tinkle of the bell as the door to Whitney Wadsworth's teacake bakery opened? I can see with my mind's eye, Mrs. Wadsworth drop her sewing and come down the steps from the back sitting-room to wait on customers. How many a tale remains untold (publicly) of the Female Seminary, presided over by Miss J. H. Jones in 1838, conducted so long by Miss Doolittle and subsequently by the Misses Nichols. Here, also, dwelt Dr. W. W. Reid, whose widow still lives, since 1830, aged 95 years; and that beloved of physicians, Dr. W. W. Ely, whose quiet, gentle manner was healing in itself, and William Kidd, the old-time gentleman; William Alling, whose dwelling was the first brick house built in our city, and his brother, S. Y. Alling; and kind old Erastus Cook, the silversmith; and the grave Judge Sampson; and Asa Sprague, representing the old stage line; and Selah Mathews and Frederick Whittlesey (Chancellor), the able lawyers; John T. Talman, the banker; David Hoyt, the early bookseller, in the place occupied for the past 45 years by the H. S. Potter family.

And here we are at Bunker Hill. Why, as we looked at it from our youthful eyes, it was higher than its original namesake; here boys and girls enjoyed the winter hours sliding down the hill across the ice to Exchange street. Beyond this point, there was not a house until Lafayette street was reached, and then only one or two; in fact, the only one of importance was the home of John Biden on the east side of Exchange street, south corner of Lafayette street, running back to the river, that seemed to me, then, as an ideal home, with its walks lined with rows of box, its old trees and attractive porch.

Now that we are back on Exchange street, recalls the Canal Stable which stood near the bank of the river in rear of Bunker Hill and is still used as a part of the Erie Railroad company's freight sheds; just below were the lumber yards of George A. Hollister, grandfather of Granger and George, who lived on Sophia street (named for Mrs. Col. Rochester) where now stands the home of D. M. Gordon and the lumber

yards of William Churchill and Amon Bronson, all of whom made fortunes in the business. Jacob Anderson's home and factory, the successor of Moses Dyer, the early soap and candle manufacturer, whose chandlery was on the island just north of the old jail, "the Blue Eagle," as named by the circus manager and clown, Dan Rice, in his song of "Dot and go I" (on account of his arrest by O. P. Chamberlain, Sheriff, etc.).

Here, also, was the circus, built in 1824, now occupied by the city stables and for many years the stove foundry of John M. French & Co., and the brick houses of James Wood and Alexander Shaw. On the lot between Court street and the jail was the chandlery of Griffith Bros. & Son: on the corner stood the Ontario House, owned by William McLaughlin, who moved a frame house from Bloomfield, a part of which still stands on South Fitzhugh street; on the other corner was the yellow warehouse of John Alien, one of the first mayors of the city. In my boyhood, the old office on the corner was occupied by Richard Harvey as a paint-shop: then came the warehouse of Thomas H. & N. T. Rochester, the marble block of Jonathan Child, used above as a theater, where Julia Dean first showed her great promise as an actress, and the building of Weed (Thurlow) & Hoyt.

How distinctly comes up before us the old "Rochester House," extending from Spring street to the canal, a monster hostelry in its day, kept by Palmer Cleveland and afterwards by Charles Morton, which burned down in the fifties. How well I remember the little packets, "Red Bird" and "Jennie Lind," that ran to Brockport and Holley, starting from Exchange street bridge at 3 P. M., each day. I can see the stern of the boat swing up to the tow-path near Spencerport, the linemen jump off and get the plates of butter from the hands of the women of the house and then jump on again—to my boyish eyes a wonderful feat.

The "Rochester House" was a very imposing structure, with wide hall and stairs, and on the part near the canal a wide veranda across the front. The stable in the rear, fronting on Spring street, was kept by J. Christopher and subsequently by Stephen Charles, who had a pathetic tone as

he remarked to any one driving out with one of his horses, "Don't sweat him, boys!" One day a couple of men were driving out, when he made his usual remark; one of them replied, "We're going to a funeral and are bound to keep up."

On the other side of Spring street, corner of Pine Alley, was the "Spring Street House," a large boarding house with broad piazzas, two stories high across the front, which was the fashionable boarding house of the day, kept by Mrs. Ensworth and her two daughters; her husband had formerly kept the Eagle Tavern. Among the many boarders were Joseph A. Eastman and wife, William H. Perkins, Dr. Alexander Kelsey, Ralph Lester, George E. King, Clarence Walworth (son of the Chancellor), who afterward became a Catholic priest, H. S. Fairchild, Dr. Munn, father of Dr. John P. Munn of New York.

On the other side of the alley was the blacksmith shop of Caleb H. Bicknell, with whom Aaron Erickson learned his trade, and the same spot is occupied, as it has been for 60 years and over, by a blacksmith shop. On the corner of Spring and Sophia streets (now Plymouth avenue), stood a large, three-story stone building, known as the "Stone Castle," a noted boarding-house. And next south was the stone house, for many years occupied by Edward Whalen and then by Roswell Hart; these were removed about 20 years ago and in their place was erected the beautiful stone church (First Presbyterian), having sold their old church property, occupied since 1817, to the city for the erection of the City Hall.

On the opposite side was country until 1821, when Roswell Hart, the father of Mrs. M. F. Reynolds, Mrs. Henry E. Rochester and Roswell Hart, built the house so long occupied by Mr. Reynolds, upon which Roswell Hart built the present block of five houses in 1872-3. Next south was the house of Elisha Mather, rebuilt with a cupola—very swell in that day—by L. S. Bacon; and next south, the house of Josiah Sheldon, the old-time stove dealer, and then of Charles J. Hill, of the early dry goods firm of Leavitt & Hill, subsequently the farmer miller, whose brand of flour gave Rochester a wide reputation, especially in New England and New York.

City. The house now standing next to Plymouth church was occupied in my boyhood by Capt. John Blim, one of the old-time canal packet captains, who removed to Chicago and was Postmaster under Lincoln.

Plymouth church was built in 1854. There was on the lot a frame church building, built in the thirties for a Christian church and occupied most of the time during week-days for school purposes. Miss Smith had a school there. The opposite corner, now occupied by J. R. Chamberlin, was at one time occupied by Mrs. Atkinson as a Young Ladies' School, and then by the celebrated Fox Sisters, the original spirit rappers, who had moved from a house on the south side of Troup street just west of Washington street. I was a boy at Miss Hamilton's School next door, and remember well the awe and wonder inspired by the reports of what was being done. Hiram Wright lived where Mrs. Alfred Ely has now lived many years, a residence for a few years occupied by Thomas Pease, one of the old canal freight boat owners.

On the southwest corner stood the large brick house built by James Seymour and afterwards occupied by Judge Samuel Miller, with its large purple-beech tree, probably the oldest and largest in this part of the country, imported by James Seymour from Europe. The house just south, in which I have lived since May, 1846—49 years—was built by David Hoyt and occupied by Isaac Hills until he built the large brick house next south in 1828.

As I passed along Plymouth avenue, formerly Sophia street, I recall the little shop and store of "Mammy Thorpe," which stood about where Dr. Lee now resides. Thorp was a carpet weaver, and kept busily at work with his foot-treadle. There was James S. Walker's planing mill on South Washington street and the red house opposite, occupied by colored people, as also in West Alley. What glorious games of ball were played in the street by Charlie and Billy Graham, Arch Gaul and others.

The brick house on the northeast corner of Washington and Spring streets, was built by Col. Rochester and occupied by him, while next east, where the present Jenkinson flats

stand, was a white frame house occupied by Jonathan Child, his son-in-law, who subsequently built the large house with columns on the west side of Washington street, now occupied by Mrs. Ives. Next south was the house of Ira West, and opposite lived Eben N. Buell and Nathaniel T. Rochester. William Pitkin built here in 1849. H. A. Brewster built the house on Spring street occupied since by William H. Perkins and family. Next door Dr. Chester Dewey, whose wife was a sister of Mrs. Brewster, daughters of Lemuel Pomeroy, of Pittsfield, Mass., lived many years. How pleasant is his memory to all who came in contact with him, especially those who came under his instruction at the old High School or in the early days of our University.

The large house with columns, on the north side, was built by Dr. Maltby Strong and occupied for the last 50 years by Harvey Montgomery, whose wife was a daughter of Col. Rochester, and his son, Dr. Harvey F. Montgomery. Opposite, stands the house where that grand man in appearance and character lived, James K. Livingston, one of our old-time millers; here, also, lived Dr. Frederick F. Backus, and now for many years Mrs. Curtis' Seminary. Opposite lived Harry B. Williams, another of the noted millers, father of Mrs. Col. H. S. Fairchild, who sold to James Chappell, owner and proprietor of freight boats on the canal. Livingston Park has been a charm and an inspiration for more than a half-century; here lived Henry E. Rochester; Thomas H. Hyatt, Consul to Japan under President Buchanan; Charles Hendrix, hardware merchant; William H. Cheney, and Dr. Horatio N. Fenn, one of the first dentists.

The house so favorably known, too, as the residence of Dr. Howard Osgood, was built by Henry Ely, one of the first millers of the town, and has been the home of William Kidd, Aristarchus Champion and Jonathan Watson, the oil king. On the south side of the street was the house of William Haywood and Moses Chapin. Chapin's Hill was a familiar sliding place in the early days, and is yet. The Chapin house was removed to Caledonia avenue, where it still stands, and its

place is now occupied by the palatial residence and art gallery of the late William S. Kimball.

Do you hear that horn? Well, that is the warning that the packet is approaching Mud lock on the Genesee Valley Canal, on its way to or from Avon, Geneseo, Mt. Morris, etc. They seemed arks in those days, but now they would look very small.

And now, does any one wonder that we are proud of the old Third Ward, that has furnished such men as Jonathan Child, Charles J. Hill, Jacob Gould, Isaac Hills, Thomas H. Rochester, Joseph Field, Maltby Strong, Charles J. Hill, Charles J. Hayden, D. D. T. Moore, Edward M. Smith, John C. Nash, and George W. Aldridge, as Mayors? In the Common Council, Dr. Frederick F. Backus, Jacob Thorn, Joseph Strong, Erastus Cook, James Seymour, Henry Cady, John H. Brewster, E. N. Buell, Aaron Bronson, Henry E. Rochester, Nathaniel T. Rochester, Thomas C. Montgomery, William Churchill, Henry T. Rogers, E. R. Andrews. Physicians and Surgeons: Dr. W. W. Reid, Dr. F. F. Backus, W. W. Ely, M. M. Mathews, E. M. Moore, Henry F. Montgomery, Azel Backus, E. H. Hurd. Churches: First Presbyterian, Plymouth Congregational, Cornhill Methodist, Immaculate Conception. Institutions: Rochester Orphan Asylum, Industrial School, Reynolds' Library, Mechanics' Institute.

The first hotel or tavern in the center of the ward was a brick house, a little south on the same lot on which stands the residence of the late William N. Sage. The house was kept by a Mr. Hulbert for a number of years. The old Third Ward House was on the corner, a story-and-a-half house and was raised up one story and converted into the Third Ward House. Mr. Hulbert kept it a number of years, up to 1836, and then Abner Sherman came and kept it for fifteen years.

In the winter of 1836-7, the Canadians burned the steamboat "Caroline," and sent it over Niagara Falls. It created quite a war feeling on this side; everybody was up and ready to fight. There were several sleigh-loads of men and guns on their way to Navy Island, where they stopped over night. That was to be the seat of war. But it blew

over without much blood. I think Philip French volunteered to go, and went, and the boys had a good deal of fun with Phil after he came back.

On the south of the Peck wagon shop was a frame building that S. F. Butler bought, keeping a grocery in front and his family lived in the rear. In 1840, Mr. Butler built a brick building on the corner for a hotel and kept it a number of years. After he sold it, Mr. John W. Shaw occupied it as a hotel and changed the name to "Caledonia House." Under the "Caledonia Hotel," Joseph H. Pool kept a market for some years and resided where J. K. Post now lives.

Some time after 1840, the colored people, young men but rather hard cases, formed a club and called it the "Tantamooney Club." They had their sway for some time and made threats what they would do, until the Cornhill boys thought they had gone far enough. They gathered their forces one election day and were going to have it, as they said; but it turned out differently. The boys got together, had a council of war, and said the "Tantamooney" must go, and they went. There was one of the Tanta's called the "Bass Wood Nigger," and he was.

There was not an election in the Third Ward without a fight of some kind. If anybody came along and wanted to fight, he was accommodated. The Whigs, in 1840, commenced to sing-song for their candidate, William H. Harrison, and said there was no music in the Democratic soul; but in 1844 a Mr. Bissell, of the town of Gates, composed some, and Cornelius Campbell made the ward ring from one end to the other. I think it was in 1844 the Democrats of the Third Ward gathered in force at the Third Ward House and marched down-town, and in going down Fitzhugh street they did so much shouting that children were awakened from their slumber. The father of one of them went to it with

"Hush, my babe, lie still and slumber,  
The noise is nothing but a little Democratic thunder."

The territory north of Lafayette street to the race, east by River, and west by Exchange street and on the south of Montgomery Hill was occupied by the lumber yards conducted

by Deacon George A. Hollister and Amon Bronson, where they piled their lumber for drying. The lumber was rafted down the river in the spring and fall during the freshets. The bank of the river on the west side would be lined with rafts as far as the Vacuum Oil Works now are.

In the early history of Rochester, our old and much esteemed City Surveyor, Silas Cornell, was severely criticized by citizens of the Third Ward (which then included the original Eighth Ward), for making the streets running northerly and southerly so crooked, which caused so many irregularly shaped building lots. The only portion of Sophia street (now Plymouth avenue) that runs due north and south begins at Troup street, or Plymouth church, and runs south to the angle in the street, where it diverges westerly at the residence of A. J. Johnson. The diversity in the shape of the lots, from square, fronting on Plymouth avenue, required the skill of the architect to adapt the houses to the different shaped lots. The late Hon. Isaac Hills said that Sophia street, as surveyed and laid out, followed the old Indian trail, which was adopted and used by them passing through the forests on high ground back from the banks of the river.

One of the largest street improvements in this section, early in the forties, was macadamizing Plymouth avenue from Buffalo street southerly and southwesterly to the city line, about 1,000 feet north of the Genesee River State dam at the Rapids. John McConnell, a Scotchman, was the contractor and lived on Edinburgh street, and he suggested the name for this street and Glasgow street, and, I think, Caledonia Park, or the round square. William McConnell, John McConnell, and Robert, all contractors, were his sons and now reside in Rochester. Sophia street ran originally straight through the park.

Greig street was named after John Greig of Canandaigua, the owner of the Greig tract. Clarissa street was named after Mrs. Greig; Cady street after Henry Cady, the contractor who built the new Aqueduct; Francis street (now Jefferson avenue) after Francis Granger of Canandaigua; Chapin street (now Frost avenue) after Miss Chapin of Canan-

daigua (sister of Mrs. John Greig). The Rochester Orphan Asylum made frequent changes of location in the Third Ward, being on Glasgow street and on Adams street, and after many trips of Alonzo Frost (the agent for the Greig tract) to Canandaigua, it was finally located where it now stands; John Greig giving all the land between Greig street and Exchange street, and Walter Hubbell, of Canandaigua, giving the entire street now called Hubbell Park, that being considered very liberal on their part, and there was much rejoicing in Rochester at the result of the negotiations which had been so long pending.

One of the old land-marks in this vicinity was the old red slaughter house, built by Thorn & Frink and located on the corner of Glasgow street and High street (now Caledonia avenue). The first orphan asylum was in the former residence of Harvey Frink, where J. Nelson Tubbs now resides; and the second one on Adams street, in the former residence of Joseph Frost, grandfather of E. A. Frost, and the same building where Prof. Foster had his school, which many of us attended. There was another conspicuous building located on the island on the east side of the Genesee River, opposite the east end of Glasgow street, which one winter was used for a slaughter house, formerly a warehouse and also painted red, and the year during the hard times—which followed the panic of 1837 (brought about by speculative and tariff changes), provisions fell very low in price and sheep and mutton was sold for less than 3 cents per pound, and entire carcasses of sheep were made into tallow in this building.

Another noted spot in this locality—and shunned by boys at that time—was “the Deep Hole,” where so many persons were drowned who went in the river swimming. It was opposite the foot of D. W. Powers’ lot (now E. R. Andrews), on the east side of Exchange street. It has been examined and explored by Mr. Powers, who was an excellent swimmer, and I think he found it to be a wide and deep crevice in the rock in the bed of the river.

# Rambles About Rochester

*By NATHANIEL S. OLDS*

*Read before The Rochester Historical Society, March 13, 1905*

This is to be a brief, running commentary on walking trips taken during the last two or three summers, through the beautiful country which lies at the door of Rochester. I wish to disclaim any intention of uttering novel historic theories or of presenting evidence which shall shatter old idols—except, perhaps, when the need for it is so very inviting that a gentle shove cannot, in human nature, be avoided.

I shall aim at describing to you some of the places with which you yourselves are familiar, but which may have some hidden beauty or association beside their own inherent charm, that perhaps may have passed you by.

Rochester is one of the most fortunately situated cities in the state, from an archaeological point of view. Its natural attractions are also many and picturesque—yet I do not exaggerate when I say that there are few cities to be found where these features are less understood or appreciated.

Last summer I was traveling on the electric railroad to Canandaigua with a friend whose life had been passed in and near Rochester. He was college bred, and passed for a well read man. As we were discussing the topography of the country, the car passed over the flats just west of the Victor station. I pointed out the field to him, and said that we were on the site of the old battle ground.

He cocked a wary eye at me and, with a guarded smile, said, incredulously: “Battle ground. What battle?”

When he was told about Denonville and his Frenchmen in the campaign of 1687, he admitted he had never heard about it before, and said he would “look it up.”

I have often wondered how many of the hundreds who pass over that historic field in the course of the summer, know its story; or if they do, remember it or care.

Rochester lies in the heart of the Seneca country—in the

home of the most powerful and most fierce of the Iroquois confederacy. In the city, and about it on all sides, are the camp sites and the village locations of these ancient people. Arrow points of the stone age have been picked up from excavations for new street pavements; and as we walk many of our city streets our feet are falling on the old trail lines which they beat out through the forest. A river, which they called the River of the Beautiful Valley, flows through the city's center; to the north were two of the most famous fords and camping sites from the Hudson to the Falls. To the east and north, and visited by us yet with unconscious homage to the instinct of the Indian for desirability of outlook and location, are the high knolls of Sea Breeze with their memories of French gold lace and plumes; and farther to the south the weird, still glens and lonely woods of the Dugway. From the Bay outlet to Victor and south-westward to Geneseo, the land has felt the pressure of moccasined foot, of crunching French jack-boot and English buckled shoe. Genesee Valley Park and the upper river are alive with Indian memories; and from Elmwood Avenue bridge to Mount Morris every foot of the bank could tell its tale of beaded Seneca, cassocked Jesuit, the curled seigneur of Louis the XIV, the hardy lean *courieur de bois*, and long birch barks laden to the cedar-sewed gun-wales with pelts from the Ohio. From 1600 to the Revolution, few parts of the country were more coveted by Iroquois, French and English than this present part of Western New York, now divided into the Counties of Wayne, Ontario, Monroe, Livingston and Genesee, and occupied by a race who, when they see an Indian pass by, nudge one another and point to him as to a curiosity from another planet.

The Iroquois have saved the Red Man from the oblivion of dead races who did nothing but fall before the "march of progress." The boasted civilization of the Aztec is rapidly being proven a brilliant legend highly recolored by the imagination of Prescott. The Incas of Peru are being relegated to their proper level, not much above that of the ancient Mexican. Both have been swept away. But the Iroquois confederacy still remains, its ancient practices intact, its

members slowly increasing in numbers, and by far the larger part of them still as staunch pagans as were their forefathers 500 years ago.

Of the original five tribes, the Senecas, "the keepers of the Western Door," were by far the most powerful, warlike and terrible.

The Iroquois were the terrors of the whole Eastern hemisphere. Captain John Smith met them in Virginia, the Illinois were almost exterminated by them; and to this day the name creates a panic in the hearts of the Hurons who sell baskets and bead work to the condescending tourist on the decks of round trip excursion steamers in Georgian bay.

The country of the Senecas, roughly speaking, originally lay between Canandaigua Lake and the Genesee river, and from Lake Ontario to Portage. To the west were the neutrals and the Eries; to the south the Andastes and Susquehannocks. This was the apportionment at the dawn of the sixteenth century, when the first of the French penetrated to Irondequoit Bay and the Genesee river. Later, the warlike tribe had slaughtered its way north, south and west and was lord of as much territory as its bands of crouching warriors were disposed to claim as their own.

The first white men to come to the Genesee country were the Jesuit fathers. They found a land of oak openings, fertile fields and abundant waterways, dotted with villages and smiling with corn, melons, apple and plum trees and tobacco. The Senecas were good fighters but they were good farmers, too, which has had a good deal to do with their hanging together, undivided, through all these centuries.

The three main villages of the Senecas were Ga-non-da-gua (Canandaigua), Gandagora (now Boughton Hill, just south of Victor), and Totiakton, west of Rochester Junction. These were the nearest approach to what could be termed permanent villages. The temporary camping sites are to be found by the score. You will note one interesting feature about these villages. Beside being rudely fortified with a keen eye to natural advantages, they were located at a considerable distance from main waterways. There is not a large village

site in the Seneca country immediately on the Genesee river. The Indians were too wise for that; and built their bark huts where the silent canoe could not afford an easy approach for a cunning enemy. With their camps, lounging places of a day or night, they were not so careful; and some of the most frequented of them were on the edge of river, stream and lake, plentiful today in its store of fish for the catching.

Rochester was only a camp site—a temporary lodging place for the night. Its Seneca name was Ga-sko-sa-go—“At-the-Falls.” We’ll take a walk up the east bank of the river, along St. Paul Street. We are on the line of a well worn trail. Others crossed it from time to time. Near the Emerson ice pond a deeply beaten path emerged into it, and both led down the steep bank to the shale bar we call Brewer’s Dock. The white man saw its value as did the Indian, a natural place for embarking for a down trip toward the lake. On and about this spot the camps were constant and numerous. The spot now occupied by the Deaf Mute Institute was a favorite resort for them; and a fine iron war axe was found there a few years ago. It is now in the extensive collection of Mr. John G. D’Olier of this city. Across, on the west bank, many relics, found from time to time, indicate the presence of a large camping ground. The Burke homestead now rises above a particularly favored spot, while all the land from Driving Park Avenue to Hanford’s Landing has given up scores of relics. Hanford’s Landing, at the beginning of the western half of the Ridge Road, was thronged with Indian camps. There are legends of an immense earthwork crowning the river bluff before the white settlers came. All trace of it has disappeared. Across, just at the entrance of Seneca Park, the end of the eastern half of the great lake trail, was equally popular with the red travelers. Seneca Park has yielded many interesting relics, especially the northern half of it, in the rolling gullies beyond the rustic bridge. Along the path which leads across the little stream flowing under the last of the bridges I have picked up tiny pieces of pottery, all fire-blackened, and now and then an occasional chip of flint whose shape and size lent probability to the

theory that it had been worked by the hand of man. Leaving the park, we strike north along the bluff past the Rifle Range into the wild cluster of oak and hemlock which open out on the R. W. & O. tracks and Rattlesnake Point. A small field just south of Rattlesnake Point has yielded up some fine flint arrow points and knives. A camp site undoubtedly stood there. We have now come to an interesting locality—Rattlesnake Point. Along the southern edge is a stiff little glen, the northern bank of which forms part of the sharp slope of the hill. A few feet up the bank we come upon a trench—without doubt the work of human hands. Whose? Some unhesitatingly declare the Indians. Of that I am not so sure. There are stories whose echoes are yet heard, of an old mill whose wheel was turned by the stored up waters of the stream which has worn away the gully. There is a natural tendency among us all to ascribe whatsoever we cannot account for to that which appeals to us the most strongly. It is a hard tendency to combat, but sometimes one wisely fought. We are certainly sure that the Indians did not operate water power grist-mills; and that they never took the trouble to fortify with deep ditches points of vantage already admirably protected by nature. But yet—well, some sunny afternoon just follow the railroad down there yourself and see what you think about it. I'll tell you, confidentially, that on the top of the knoll called Rattlesnake Point, two Indian skeletons were unearthed a few years ago.

Across from the point we can see the Stace farm. A graveyard, many interesting relics, and what some say are "earth works" have been found there. Standing on the top of the knoll we can catch sight of Charlotte and the Summerville ferry. Just south of the ferry gates, almost upon the site of the Naval Reserve quarters, a score of terror stricken, hungry Tory renegades, fleeing from the wrath of Sullivan's soldiers in 1779. took refuge in a thicket until they were rescued by boats sent out from Fort Niagara. LaSalle and Hennepin undoubtedly paddled up the gorge and looked upon the Lower Falls of the Genesee in 1668.

I like to think that these two adventurers knew and loved

this beautiful Genesee Country. Only occasionally, in the dry and musty pages of stiff old Jesuit records, do we find mention of their visits. In 1679 LaSalle, that beau ideal of the gentleman adventurer, who heard always ringing in his ears

"Something, over yonder 'cross the range,"

paddled up Irondequoit bay, past the Landing, and thence trailed overland to Father Fremin's town, now Victor and known as Gandagora. There he was feasted and saw a few captives tortured for his delectation. A few years later he returned and narrowly escaped death by treachery. The worthy Father Hennepin was with him that time. These are the only mention we find of those two in connection with the Genesee, but whenever I walk among the woods and vales of the Dugway, I seem to see the dauntless form of the great Frenchman who opened the door of the vast west, and his companion, the black-cassocked Jesuit. They may have rested under this giant oak, or looked forth upon that beautiful panorama of water, woods and hills from the crown of the Landing hill or the peak of Stony Point two centuries ago. —

Irondequoit Bay and the Dugway are my favorite haunts about Rochester. There is history in every foot of their green hills and cool woods. For centuries before the white man came the shores of the bay and the sandy beaches of the outlet were the favorite camping grounds of the Senecas. A net work of trails led over the hill-crests and down the valleys which furrow the bay-sides. Denonville landed on the sand bar near the present railroad bridge one hot July day in 1687, with 1600 French soldiers and "Christian Indians," bound valiantly to punish the savage Senecas. Some say he built his stockade and pitched his first camp there. The topographical details of that memorable expedition will never be settled; and historians have placed his camp almost everywhere except on the most reasonable and likely spot—the plateau now comprised by the Sea Breeze Park. The historic interest of that highland is very great. It was probably the most noted

resort for the Indians in western New York. Thirty years after Denonville had sailed away, his successor as governor of New France built a small log stockade and called it Fort des Sables. For half a century, now in the hands of the French, now of the English, it served as one of the most important trading and fur posts on the border. The fort occupied approximately the same ground as do at present the Sea Breeze hotel and the electric railroad station. A broad and well worn trail followed the deep gorge over which the rustic bridge now stretches, and up and down this trail the fur and the other commodities of barter were packed by the Indians and the hardy *courcours de bois*. Many interesting relics have been picked up on that plateau. South of the merry-go-round is a pit of fine sand; and from it scores of flint arrow-heads and knives have been gathered. A cache of 160 flint knives and a store of war paint (oxide of iron) were unearthed in this sand a few years ago and are now part of the Historical Society's collection. A path—perhaps the remains of the original trail—leads south to Glen Haven and there joins another trail sweeping through the hills to the old Irondequoit landing.

On the east side of the bay hundreds of relires have been found. On the bluff back of Glen Edith an old Indian plum orchard flourished, and on the Williams farm near by many stone relires are picked up even yet.

On either side of the bay two main traveled trails ran south to the Canandaigua trail. Over one of them Denonville's army marched. This is another point which has never been settled, for none of the chroniclers of that affair has left any exact data as to this interesting feature of the expedition. The majority of opinion leans toward the east—but from one tiny hint let drop in the Marquis's own report I have inclined toward thinking he advanced down the west side. The probability of his camping on the Sea Breeze plateau is, of course, purely hypothetical; but he speaks of passing two defiles. I have followed the trails on both sides of the bay, and the only two "defiles" across his line of any notable extent are Palmer's glen and Allen's creek. It is a fine walk,

that stretch from the outlet to the old Landing and thence to Vietor. The Landing is that gently sloping valley which lies before us as we turn the sharp curve of the old Dugway road. There in 1799 Judge Tryon founded his ill-starred city of Tryon and saw it crumble and fade before the superior advantages of the stout little village beside the Genesee falls. It was laid out to occupy all that lovely valley from the top of the rise to the pine-bordered banks of Irondequoit creek—an ideal location, but one not willed by the strong arm of trade.

Many interesting relics have been gathered here. Iron gun barrels, copper kettles, flint and stone implements, and other remains of a past occupation have been picked up. It was the north end of the great portage trail which ran in almost a straight line from the Clarissa street bridge through Gregory street, past the intersection of East avenue and Culver Road to the landing. The southern end was at the mouth of Red Creek just south of the Elmwood avenue bridge at Genesee Valley Park.

All the country about Genesee Valley Park is interesting. Oak hill was the site of an Indian village, and has borne many relics. The river banks on both sides were crowded with camp sites; and the low land near Red Creek, the rustic bridge and the golf links, was a noted landing place for the bands of Indians who, by paddling up the Allegany river and then down some of the tributary streams, reached the head waters of the Genesee in their light birch-barks, and so joined the Mississippi to Lake Ontario.

The Tories who fled from Sullivan's avenging arm in 1779 camped at this landing, buried arms and ammunition among the roots of trees in the woods and escaped to Niagara, as has been told, by way of what is now Charlotte.

La Salle undoubtedly camped here many a time, and Father Charlevoix, who paddled up the river as far as Portage in May, 1721, quite probably cooked his dinner on the green banks where now the only war-cry is the golfer's stentorian "Fore!"

But to return to Denonville and his expedition. If you

take the electric cars to the Float Bridge, strike south along the west shore of the Dugway, pass Palmer's glen and Allen's creek (hard work, this), climb the embankment and head straight for Pittsford and then follow the Canandaigua road to Victor, you will have stepped with pretty fair accuracy in the foot-prints of the French army. The road from Canandaigua to Rochester follows with almost undeviating accuracy the line of the Indian trail, and it is more than probable that Denonville was guided down the west side bay trail to this main trail and thence to the "Babylon of the Senecas," as the Abbe de Bellmont pionously dubbed the huge Indian village of Gandagora, which occupied the most of Boughton hill. This is the eminence which rises roundly, easily, just south of the New York Central railroad tracks at Victor. Denonville and his Frenchmen issued from the hills into the little confined valley in which Victor now picturesquely lies. There are three of these little funnels into the Valley, scooped out by ancient streams from the bluff that backs up the village on the north. Two centuries ago this valley was a thicket of bass wood and oak underbrush. Here the Senecas ambushed the French army, and had it not been for Denonville ordering his kettle drums to roll mightily, thereby striking the savages with panic, the day might have gone bloodily for him. As it was, his soldiers were badly cut up, 80 or more being killed; and the remainder slept upon the battle-field. The next day Denonville destroyed Gandagora and marched over to the west to Fort Hill, a steep little mountain where to this day can be traced the line of an old trench and on the top, very plain, is a deep cache or dugout in the earth for storing corn and other provisions. I saw it last fall, and the depression was still noticeable. Denonville destroyed the stockade and provisions here and then marched southwestward to Totiakton, which lay along the elevation you have probably noticed just west of the Lehigh tracks at Rochester Junction, on the Sheldon farm. This the Frenchmen destroyed. In 1802, when the Sheldons took up their land here, the remains of the Seneca stockade were quite visible. As at Victor and Boughton Hill, an immense quantity of iron axes, gun barrels

and locks, knives, metal ornaments, French money and medals, beside may stone implements, have been dug up; and in many cases irretrievably lost. The Frenchmen, after destroying Totiakton, marched straight north, probably by the river trail to the Red Creek landing in Genesee Valley Park, and thence to the sand bar at the Bay, whence they paddled to Niagara, built a post and thence home to Montreal and Quebec. If they did not pass over the site of Rochester, they undoubtedly saw the Pinnacle hills and Mt. Hope, and perhaps heard the roar of the Falls.

There is another great village site also called Totiakton, about two miles west of Honeoye Falls, on the Dann farm. This has been wonderfully rich in relics, an extensive graveyard having yielded up one of the finest collections of Seneca pipes and beads in the country. It is thought that this Totiakton was built by the Senecas after the destruction of the original town by Denonville.

So much for the east side of the river. On the west bank, inside the limits of the city, there are many interesting archaeological memories. Most of them center about the rapids near the Court Street dam. This was a famous ford and canoe landing, and the springs from which Spring street obtained its name, made all the land from the Erie station to the hill on which the Kimball house stands, in good repute for camping. The springs were located in the rear of what is now the First Presbyterian church and the adjoining buildings; and even in comparatively recent times have given trouble in digging foundations for houses. Exchange street is on a trail line; Spring and Troup streets were both trails; and Plymouth avenue was a continuation of the Hanford Landing trail, connecting the Ridge Road and the Red Creek landing.

All the way up the river to Avon and Mt. Morris is marked by aboriginal remains. About Caledonia they are particularly plentiful, as that was a favorite camping resort, being on the main cross state trail which ran unbrokenly from the Hudson to Lake Erie and plentifully supplied with springs. On a gentle hill near Chili last fall a party of four happened upon what was apparently an undisturbed burying ground;

and in a short time uncovered nine perfect skeletons. Strangely enough, no weapons or other remains were found with the skeletons, excepting in one case, where a beautiful pipe, one of the most perfect I have ever seen, fell a prey to the skilful spade of a collector who, of course, has already more than, as I have often explained to him, he really needs.

The river road follows the river trail, and as you rush in your automobile along its smooth surface you can imagine it as it was in La Salle's day, 24 inches wide, beaten down hard into the sod and following, as it does today, the windings of the river. And as you look out upon the shining ribbon of the gentle current, it takes but a little imagining to people it now with swiftly moving canoes, gleaming red shoulders and flashing paddles. It was a stream beloved of the Indian. I think La Salle loved it, too, and it is slowly coming back into its own again, and being loved by the white man for its own sake, even in the 20th century.

There are many other places of interest that you would meet in a day's tramp; but these I have endeavored to point out to you as the most noticeable and essential to a proper knowledge of Rochester's considerable historical associations. As an end or a cause for a tramp in the open they are the salt to the meat. Three of these places are of more than merely local interest. They are the land about the Bay outlet,—especially Sea Breeze and the site of Fort des Sables; the upper landing at Genesee Valley Park; and the battle field at Victor. The village of Canandaigua has dedicated a huge boulder, inscribed in bronze, to mark the spot where Sullivan and his soldiers passed on their way to punish the Senecas for the Wyoming massacre in 1779. I would like to suggest that some such monument should be placed upon the historic ground at Sea Breeze, upon the upper landing at Genesee Valley Park and upon the battle field at Victor; and I believe that the newspapers and the people of Rochester will be glad to assist in such a move by this society. It is notorious that we Americans "are careless of our dead." Let us throw off this apathy and keep fresh in the memories of the generations to come the part that our city and its environments have played in the development of this land of ours.

# Rochester; Backgrounds of Its History

By RAYMOND H. ARNOT

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The student of the history of Rochester and the Genesee Country is confronted by so many facts of historical value that a wise selection of the events in that history is somewhat difficult to make; that the history of Rochester and the Genesee Valley is of commanding importance to the general scholar is not fully appreciated, even by those who are, to a greater or less extent, familiar with the important events which have developed in this region. It would be an extravagance of expression to assert that the city of Rochester and Western New York offer as varied and as interesting a history as any portion of America. It is, however, possible to declare that in Rochester lived men who have markedly influenced the intellectual life of this nation; men who have engaged in great business enterprises which have affected the country at large; scholars who have contributed worthy additions to the literature of our time; that here was the focal point for the dissemination of ideas, some of doubtful value, we must admit, but attractive, nevertheless, to the historian in the sequence of events.

The Indian occupation of the Genesee Country compels the attention of him who must go back to first things before he can orient himself to the history which is to follow. As, however, the aboriginal peoples made no impression upon the subsequent life of this community, a short discussion of the history of Western New York before the settlement of the white men is all that may be deemed necessary.

The two great Indian races in North America were the Algonquins and the Iroquois. They were bitter rivals. The Algonquins comprised such well known tribes as the Mohegans, the Illinois, the Miami and the Shawnees, and they were by far the largest Indian family north of Yucatan. The Iroquois among other tribes, included the Five Nations of Western

New York, the Senecas, the Onondagas, the Mohawks, the Oneidas, and the Cayugas.

It was Iroquois tribes, according to most anthropologists, who built the mounds in the Ohio Valley. The Senecas were settled in the Genesee Valley when the French explorers visited Western New York. Their antipathy to the French after the defeat of the Iroquois by Champlain prevented any friendly co-operation between the French and the Indians though Jesuit missionaries had made an heroic but futile attempt to win over the Senecas to Catholic Christianity.

We read of the expedition of Denonville in the latter part of the seventeenth century and of his victory over the Indians; the landing of LaSalle and Father Hennepin; the passage over the Seneca country of Brûlé, Champlain's interpreter; the activities of the fathers, Chaumonot and Fremin; and the punitive expedition of General John Sullivan in 1779. All of these facts are of importance to the chronicler of events, but they are no part of the real history of Rochester. That history must begin with the occupation of the white men.

In 1606 James I granted a charter for colonization in America to two companies of London merchants. One of these companies was the Plymouth Colony which received a grant of land lying between the fortieth and the forty-eighth parallels of latitude and extending from ocean to ocean. This grant was subsequently revoked, but in 1691 in the reign of William and Mary was in large part reaffirmed. The bounty of James I, therefore, comprehended the whole of the present State of New York. In 1664 the Dutch Colony of New Amsterdam surrendered to the English, and Charles II granted the former Dutch possessions to his brother, the Duke of York and Albany, later James II.

Upon the conclusion of the Revolutionary War and after various persons had penetrated the Genesee Country with a view to its settlement, a controversy arose between the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the State of New York in respect to their rights in the lands of this region. This disagreement was happily adjusted by a compromise effected at the Convention in Hartford in 1786. By that compromise the sovereignty of New York was recognized over the disputed

lands, but to Massachusetts was granted the right of ownership in them subject to the Indian claims which, it was conceded, must be extinguished. The ownership by one state of lands in another state was not a unique situation at that time. Connecticut, for example, only two months before the convention at Hartford, had retained ownership in a large tract in the State of Ohio known to history as the Western Reserve. The governing authorities in both Massachusetts and Connecticut, however, recognizing the futility and the anomaly of such ownership, took immediate steps to dispose of property, which, if it were retained, would have been of doubtful benefit. Massachusetts soon found opportunity of closing a bargain for the disposition of these lands with Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham.

Oliver Phelps, the more interesting personage of the two, was a native of Windsor, Connecticut, a resident of Massachusetts, and during the closing years of his life was domiciled in Canandaigua. Not discouraged by his failure to effect a sale of the entire tract acquired from Massachusetts Phelps purchased from Connecticut in association with Gideon Granger and others the Western Reserve in Ohio. He subsequently became a member of Congress and a Circuit Judge. Being farsighted enough to see the need in Western New York of a great waterway he was one of the earliest advocates of the Erie Canal. "Oliver Phelps," the editor of the first directory of Rochester asserts, "may be considered the Cecrops of the Genesee Country. Its inhabitants owe a mausoleum to his memory in gratitude for his having pioneered for them this Canaan of the west."

To further the promotion of the sale of the lands so acquired Phelps and Gorham succeeded in buying off the claims of the Indians in an immense acreage. Cession of any land west of the Genesee, however, was not within the contemplation of the Indian chiefs until Phelps promised to erect a grist mill for the accommodation of the settlers and the Senecas. This proposal was apparently enough to warrant the cession of a very large tract (12 miles by 24) lying west of the Genesee, one hundred acres of which were granted by Phelps and Gorham as a gratuity to Ebenezer Allan upon

condition that Allan construct a mill. The One Hundred Acre Tract, or Mill Lot, finally coming into possession of the Pulteney Estate, was sold by that estate to Nathaniel Rochester, William Fitzhugh and Charles Carroll.

Of the character of the founder of Rochester only words of respect and veneration can be used. Born in the same great commonwealth with Washington, Jefferson, Madison and Monroe, he worked assiduously in the patriotic cause during the Revolutionary War. Being ardent in his sympathies with the revolting colonists Colonel Rochester was entrusted by the leaders with undertakings requiring skill, tact and initiative. Coming to the Genesee Country he acquired a considerable acreage in Livingston County, and in 1802 in association with Fitzhugh and Carroll he purchased the One Hundred Acre Tract. Being a man of unusual energy and enterprise and deeming the times unfavorable for the sale of this tract he repaired to his home in Maryland, and remained there engaged in mercantile pursuits. During his residence in Maryland after the close of the war Colonel Rochester was successively sheriff, president of the Hagerstown bank and elector for James Madison. Coming to Dansville in 1810 he there erected a paper mill where also he added to his already large landed estate. Nathaniel Rochester became a permanent resident of the place called by his name in 1818.

There can be no doubt that Nathaniel Rochester was a man of prevision and business judgment. His purchase of a tract of land for subdivision in the heart of what is now Rochester was an indication of his wisdom in forecasting the value of the tract as a site for the development of a thriving center of population. In 1812 the opportune time arrived for the sale of portions of the One Hundred Acre Tract, and that year may be fixed as the date of the founding of Rochester. To be sure, there were occasional visitors to the site of Rochester, and a pioneer here and there prior to the year 1812, but there was no determined attempt to establish any permanent settlement until Rochester, Fitzhugh and Carroll opened the sale of the One Hundred Acre Tract.

Neither William Fitzhugh nor Charles Carroll ever actively connected himself with the development of Rochester.

Fitzhugh removed from Maryland and took up his residence in Livingston County. Fitzhugh's three daughters married men of distinction; Gerrit Smith and James G. Birney, the abolitionists, and Dr. Frederick F. Backus, a son of Azel Backus, first president of Hamilton College, were sons-in-law of William Fitzhugh.

Rochester was by no means the first settlement in Monroe County. Pittsford was settled in 1790 by Israel and Simon Stone, and Scottsville and Brighton were settled at the end of the eighteenth century. In 1805 the harbor of the Genesee was made a port of entry, and Samuel Latta was appointed the first collector. Latta Road was named for Samuel Latta. Charlotte was settled in 1792 by William Hincher. It was named for Charlotte, daughter of Colonel Robert Troup, the agent of the Pulteney estate, and not for Charlotte Augusta, the daughter of George IV, as some authorities, like the Government publication on place names, suppose.

The One Hundred Acre Tract lay wholly on the west side of the Genesee, and was given the name of Rochester in honor of its chief proprietor. It was originally intended by the owners that only that tract should bear the name Rochester. From the point of view of the technician, therefore, it is correct to assert that Mortimer F. Reynolds having been born on the site of the Reynolds Arcade (on the west side of the river) was the first white child born in Rochester. James Stone, however, a son of the pioneer proprietor of the east side of the Genesee, was probably the first white child born within the limits of the present city. The date of the birth of James Stone is 1810; that of Mortimer F. Reynolds, 1814.

There are authorities who are inclined to question the assertion that James Stone was the first white child born within the present city of Rochester, and who declare that one John Fish was born on the One Hundred Acre Tract in 1800. No one can declare with the assurance of ultimate authority for or against James Stone or John Fish. It is sufficient to affirm, however, that the weight of evidence on this interesting question is in favor of James Stone as the first white child born in Rochester.

Some events in 1812 worth chronicling were: the erection

of a tavern and the construction of a sawmill by Isaac W. Stone on the east side of the river; the laying out of village lots in that part of present day Rochester on the west side known as Frankfort north of the One Hundred Acre Tract, the name "Frankfort" being given in honor of Francis Brown, one of the proprietors; and the completion at the joint expense of Genesee and Ontario counties of the bridge across the Genesee.

The development of the settlement was much hindered by the prospect of a British invasion in the War of 1812. No invasion, however, actually occurred, though in 1814 a British squadron under Yeo made a threatening demonstration off Charlotte.

Of some of the men of those early days it is befitting to speak. The population of Rochester was not made up of the offscourings of humanity. The forefathers were not mere adventurers seeking to gain sudden fortune and then repair to a more refined and elegant civilization. The settlers here were virile and resolute, determined to carve out their own careers in this western wilderness. Largely of New England ancestry they injected into their life here the old New England customs.

Of heroic mold and, as his addresses reveal him, a man of cultivation was Enos Stone. Born in Lenox, Massachusetts, in the fateful year 1776, he came to the Genesee Valley to superintend a land purchase of his father. Reaching the site of Rochester in 1790 he found here his brother, Orange Stone. Ardent in his devotion to his adopted home he worked throughout his life in the Genesee Country to make Rochester habitable.

Abelard Reynolds came from Pittsfield, Massachusetts, and opened a tavern on the One Hundred Acre Tract. He bought lots in this tract upon which he later erected the Reynolds Arcade.

Colonel Caleb Hopkins, though not intimately connected with Rochester except through his interest in the first manufacturing company of the village, was a notable man in this region. Born in Pittsford, Vermont, he migrated to Western New York in 1791. Made of the stern stuff so necessary to

a first settler he built the first log dwelling in the present town of Penfield. Being one of the earliest inhabitants of what is now Pittsford and a man of influence and popularity in that community, he chose the name of his birthplace in Vermont as the name of the new settlement.

A man of great enterprise and versatility, and a leader in the early life here, was Elisha Johnson, president of the village in 1829, builder of old St. Paul's Church, builder of the dam across the Genesee, builder of Johnson's race on the east side of the river, chief engineer of the first railway from Rochester and Mayor of the city in 1838.

In 1816 came Everard Peck, a Connecticut Yankee, to ply his trade as a bookbinder. Two years later he established the Rochester *Telegraph* and befriended Thurlow Weed by making a position for him on that paper. Mr. Peck was not a man of liberal education, but it was he who was largely instrumental in founding the University of Rochester. Of all the pioneers Everard Peck was not inferior to any in the accuracy of his judgment, the strength of his character, the variety of his interests and the esteem in which he was held by the people.

Other names of first settlers to whom our affection is due are Elisha Ely of Hadley, Massachusetts, builder of mills and publisher of the first city directory and one of the officers of the little band which were ready to withstand the threatened attack of Admiral Yeo in 1814. Samuel G. Andrews, who came from Derby, Connecticut, in 1815, prominent merchant, postmaster, member of Congress, Mayor of the city in 1840 and in 1856. "Samuel G. Andrews," in the language of Thurlow Weed, "or as he was best known, 'George Andrews,' was one of the brightest, gentlest, as well as one of the most interesting and agreeable gentlemen I have ever known." Thomas Kempshall was a man of energy and business sagacity. He founded the famous Kempshal mills and was one of the first trustees of the Rochester Savings Bank, and Mayor of the city.

Three men who were distinguished in early Rochester in the practice of the law and on the bench were Addison Gardiner, Samuel L. Selden and Henry R. Selden. Born in New Hampshire, Gardiner came to Manlius in Central New

York, and there formed an attachment for Thurlow Weed. Gardiner removed to Rochester in 1822 and induced Weed to follow him. Forming a partnership with Samuel L. Selden, Gardiner became one of the most eminent lawyers in the Genesee Country. Upon the retirement of Judge Gardiner from the Court of Appeals, Samuel L. Selden became his successor. Henry R. Selden, younger brother of Samuel, was one of the greatest American lawyers and judges. The Court of Appeals never had a more learned member than Henry R. Selden.

In 1817 the population on both sides of the river had so increased as to warrant the incorporation of the new settlement as a village, the name of which was to be "Rochester-ville." The diminutive ending lasted only five years. In 1822 the place was renamed "Rochester." The village had been developing a thriving business with Canada and in 1818, 26,000 barrels of flour, as well as other commodities, were shipped by vessels running from the Genesee.

In 1816 Caleb Lyon began the settlement of Carthage, and in 1818 Elisha B. Strong erected there a flour mill. Before the future development of the One Hundred Acre Tract could be adequately foreseen there were extravagant predictions respecting the enterprising colony at Carthage. The possibility of its outstripping the settlement on the One Hundred Acre Tract was freely proclaimed. At all events, here were built stores and dwellings under the guidance of Elisha B. Strong who later became president of the Bank of Rochester and the first judge of the new county. It was for Judge Strong that Strong Street in the former settlement of Carthage is named. Judge Strong came from Windsor, Connecticut, the birthplace of Oliver Phelps.

In 1819 the Carthage Bridge was completed. This bridge was one of the great engineering accomplishments of those early days. While it lasted it was the pride of Western New York. Unfortunately the quality of the work was not commensurate with the praise bestowed upon it, for the bridge collapsed the year following its completion. In this connection it may be well to add that a strange fatality seemed to follow bridges at Carthage, for another bridge erected there in 1856

fell in 1857. The falling of bridges at Carthage one year after their construction was becoming a habit.

Investigation has never satisfactorily explained why Carthage was so named. Pioneers in Western and Central New York, however, had a passion for classical nomenclature; the naming of a place, therefore, with the promise of so brilliant a future after the great rival of Rome seems probable. Though why anyone with a knowledge of the fate of ancient Carthage in mind should have deliberately so named a settlement which its promoters hoped would become a populous community set on permanent foundations is beyond explanation. Carthage was finally taken into the city upon its incorporation in 1834.

The growth of this western village in those early days was really phenomenal. From 331 souls in 1815 the village increased in numbers to approximately 2,000 in 1821. This increase and the difficulty of reaching the two court towns of Canandaigua and Batavia constrained public spirited men to ask the Legislature for the erection of a new county. The jealousy of the older counties obstructed, for a time, the passage of a bill to this end. But Nathaniel Rochester, who was always accustomed to bring things to pass, succeeded in 1821 in convincing the Legislature that Rochester must be the county seat of a new county. The year 1821 happened to be the first year of James Monroe's second term as President, and in honor of that great Virginian the county was called "Monroe."

Another familiar name given by the pioneers in recognition of a contemporary event is "Greece." Erected in 1822 when European Greece, then a vilayet of Turkey, was struggling for its freedom, the new town in Monroe County was so named to give expression to the sympathy which the founders held for the ancient classic land.

Colonel Rochester became the first county clerk, and his signature subjoined to conveyances in the first book of deeds is of lively interest to antiquarians.

In 1824 the first banking institution in Rochester was organized. Prior to this year merchants and others in Rochester who needed banking accommodations were obliged

to resort to institutions in neighboring towns. The charter of the new bank, called the Bank of Rochester, was obtained by reason of the political acumen of a very remarkable man who had come to Rochester only two years before to seek his fortune. Thurlow Weed, though only 27 years of age, had cultivated the acquaintance of so many politicians at Albany by his work as a reporter for Everard Peck's *Rochester Telegraph* that he was able to urge successfully the passage through the Legislature of the charter of the first banking institution in the village. The strong jealousy against the creation of a new bank in the Genesee Country would have appalled any less resolute man than Weed, but undeterred by possible discouragements he won a brilliant victory. Many applications from prospective banking institutions were pending in the Legislature, but Rochester was the only place favored out of New York City by a bank charter in 1824. The work, therefore, of Thurlow Weed towards this end was of no mean significance. It was Samuel G. Andrews who suggested Weed for this important mission.

In 1829 the first Bank of Monroe was established, and in 1831 the Rochester Savings Bank. The latter bank was founded through the philanthropic efforts of Dr. Levi Ward, Jr., Everard Peck and Jonathan Child, a trio of men whose lives and whose work in this community were always for the public good and will continue a precious memory to those who hold in veneration the influence of the pioneers.

Yielding only in seniority to the Bank for Savings in the City of New York and to the Albany Savings Bank, the Rochester Savings Bank is the oldest bank of that kind in this state. After its organization the Rochester Savings Bank conducted its business in the rooms of the Bank of Rochester on Exchange Street, but in 1842 it completed and began to occupy a new building on State Street. This structure, of substantial but old-fashioned appearance, is a cherished relic of early Rochester, and is still maintained for commercial purposes.

In 1825 there was completed from Albany to Buffalo the Erie Canal, one of the greatest human achievements in history up to that time. The project for the construction of this

waterway had been in contemplation for a number of years before the work was actually started. The wonder to us of a later day is how it was possible to marshal the money necessary for so momentous an undertaking. But the builders of the canal, supported by the powerful advocacy of DeWitt Clinton and by such local protagonists as Myron Holley and Nathaniel Rochester, overcame all difficulties. The canal was completed in eight years and proved to be one of the most successful ventures, particularly from a pecuniary point of view, ever carried out.

This canal, second in length only to the great canal of China, played a most important part in the commercial development of the State of New York, and probably more than any other influence contributed to the establishment of New York City as the chief port of entry of the United States. During the period between 1817 and 1882, when tolls were collected, the operation of the canal showed a net profit of nearly \$43,000,000.

The construction of the Erie Canal was the making of Rochester. It was accessibility to the canal which determined definitely that Rochester and not her rivals was to be the commercial center of the Genesee Country. Unquestionably abundant water power played a great part in the development of the settlement, but it was the problem of transportation, happily solved by the Erie Canal, which enabled Rochester to take precedence over other places hereabouts and to become the distributing point for this part of the state. Intelligent men like Nathaniel Rochester and Myron Holley saw clearly that adequate transportation was needed above all things for the future growth of the village; hence their indomitable perseverance until the canal project was assured.

Of the abduction of William Morgan in 1826 and the formation of the Anti-Masonic Party no details need be given. The party soon dissolved and would now be scarcely remembered except for the introduction to national politics of three men who were destined to renown in another generation—William H. Seward, Thurlow Weed and Thaddeus Stevens, and except for the more important fact of its origination of the nominating convention, an example soon followed

and still followed by all other parties. Prior to the Anti-Masonic convention which in 1832 nominated William Wirt for President, presidential nominees were chosen in Congressional caucuses.

The population of this western village had so materially increased that in 1834 the Legislature granted a city charter. In this connection it is interesting to note that Toronto became a city in the same year. The charter of Rochester was drawn by one of the most eminent lawyers of the time, John C. Spencer, subsequently Secretary of War and Secretary of the Treasury in President Tyler's Cabinet. Spencer was so bitter an opponent of the erection of the county of Monroe that his selection to draft the charter of the first city of that county was a recognition of his ability which needs no comment.

Following the custom prevailing in English cities and boroughs, the charter provided for the appointment of the mayor by the Common Council. His term was for one year only. All mayors continued to be appointed by the Common Council for the term of one year until an amendment to the Constitution of 1821, adopted in 1839, permitted the Legislature to enact a law providing for the election of mayors by the people. The Legislature enacted such a law in 1840, and thereafter mayors were elected annually by the people until 1871, when the biennial term was established.

Another peculiarity of the charter of 1834 was the provision for an alderman and an assistant alderman from each ward of the city. This double representation continued until 1877.

The first mayor of Rochester was Jonathan Child. The people of Rochester should warmly regard the memory of their first mayor. Deeming the issuance of licenses for the sale of liquor inconsistent with his convictions, he resigned his office rather than compromise his opinions. Contemporary criticism of Mayor Child's course, criticism, based upon the requirement of the charter that the mayor should sign all licenses granted by the Common Council, was not well founded. Whether Mayor Child knew of this charter provision or not, he was well within his rights in quitting an office which demanded a duty not sanctioned by his conscience.

In his inaugural address Mr. Child used these significant words: "In the intercourse of social life, and on all occasions involving the interests of our young city, let us forget our polities and our party, and seek only the public good. The fortunes of us all are embarked in a common bottom, and it cannot be too much to expect a union of counsels and exertions to secure their safety." A portion of this quotation is the legend or inscription on the Mortimer street facade of the new Chamber of Commerce Building.

Jonathan Child married Sophia, daughter of Nathaniel Rochester. They occupied one of the most notable houses in the city. Built in 1838 it is still one of the landmarks of the Third Ward.

A movement in the history of the United States which can justly claim Rochester as one of its centers was the anti-slavery propaganda. Myron Holley, sometime a resident of Canandaigua, but during his later years a resident of Rochester, was the real founder of the Liberty Party, the writer of its first platform and the moving spirit in the nomination at Warsaw in 1839 of James G. Birney for President of the United States. Holley established in 1839 the Rochester *Freeman*, a journal devoted to the anti-slavery cause. He was not the pioneer abolitionist editor, for Lundy had published a paper in 1821 and Garrison had founded the *Liberator* in 1831, but Holley's zeal and enterprise accomplished much in introducing anti-slavery ideas to the people of the North. Holley's daughter imbibed her father's convictions on the slavery question, and became after Holley's death in 1841 one of the most earnest workers among the abolitionists. Her life has been written by John White Chadwick. She lived in Rochester many years and now lies buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery near her father.

Through the agitation of Myron Holley and the accession to the anti-slavery ranks in Rochester of Frederick Douglass, this city became one of the stations of the so-called "underground railway." Western New York in the forties and fifties was in a ferment over the slavery question. In Syracuse occurred the celebrated "Jerry" rescue under the leadership of the Rev. Samuel J. May; in Peterboro lived Gerrit Smith,

one of the most active abolitionists of the North; in Rochester after the passage of the fugitive slave law in 1850 men and women vied with each other in their attempts to give slaves a safe conduct to Canada. The resident anti-slavery leaders were from time to time encouraged by visits to Rochester of workers in the cause from New England and elsewhere. Such men as Garrison, Wendell Phillips, Whittier, Arthur Tappan, Gerrit Smith, Joshua R. Giddings and Theodore Parker came to lend their aid against slavery.

For the benefit of those who may be interested in the beginnings of things pertaining to Rochester the following dates are given: the first church in Rochester, the First Presbyterian, was organized in 1815. Its second church edifice stood on the present site of the City Hall and opposite St. Luke's. St. Luke's was founded in 1817 and has occupied its present building since 1825. The First Baptist Church was established in 1818. The Brick Presbyterian Church (formerly called the Second Presbyterian) was founded in 1825, the year of Lafayette's visit here. In 1830 St. Paul's Church was finished. The builder of the church, who was also president of the village trustees, gave to the street the name St. Paul in honor of the church. The first Court House was completed in 1822 on land given to the county by Rochester, Fitzhugh and Carroll. The Reynolds Arcade was constructed in 1828. The first railway train left Rochester in 1837 and went as far as Batavia. The first train in the opposite direction left here in 1840. Mt. Hope Cemetery began to be used in 1838. The Hemlock water system was completed in 1876.

No discussion of the backgrounds of the history of Rochester would be adequate without considering two educational institutions which give prestige to the city, and which help to maintain its primacy as an intellectual center, the University of Rochester and the Rochester Theological Seminary. No single institution has wrought more nobly for the public good than the University. Mis-called a "university," for it has not yet developed any graduate departments, it nevertheless has been a center of culture for the whole community. The city is so large and the University has been

so small that no one can speak with accuracy of the college dominating the city—a condition which might with justice be asserted of Harvard at Cambridge or Yale at New Haven. The influence, however, of the chief educational organization of Rochester upon the life of the people has been important, and during the coming years is likely to increase.

Founded in 1850, the University of Rochester has maintained an eminent faculty and has sent out into the world many well known men.

Every institution of learning seems to give precedence and place of honor to one only. In thinking of Harvard we visualize James Walker; of Yale, Theodore Dwight Woolsey; of Williams, Mark Hopkins; of Union, Eliphalet Nott. Rochester graduates give the primacy to the beloved Dr. Anderson. Born in Brunswick, Maine, and graduating at Waterville College, he forsook his New England home to become the first president of the new college at Rochester. Here for 35 years Dr. Anderson worked to make the college a center of culture and sound learning. Being offered the presidency of Brown University, he declined it upon the ground that in Rochester was there greater need for his services. For 37 years Dr. Anderson was a trustee of Vassar College, an institution which shared with Rochester his powerful influence for right living and right thinking.

From the faculty of Madison University at Hamilton there came to Rochester two eminent teachers and scholars, Dr. Asahel C. Kendrick and Professor John H. Raymond. Dr. Kendrick was one of the most eminent classical scholars of his day. He was a member of the American committee for the revision of the New Testament; he was president of the American Philological Association, and in 1895 he published a life of Dr. Anderson. Professor Kendrick's talented daughter married Rossiter Johnson.

John H. Raymond, another member of the first faculty, added distinction to the college and the city. Serving as professor of literature at Rochester for fifteen years, he was then called to be president of Vassar College, an institution which he served until his death with intelligent zeal and devotion.

The third member of the first faculty of whom note should be made was Professor Chester Dewey, one of the pioneers in the teaching of science in America and long a leading citizen of Rochester.

A naturalist of great promise was James Orton, who served the University but a single year. Invited by the Smithsonian Institution to take charge of an expedition to South America, he devoted much of the remainder of his life to exploration and study in the Andes.

Of Henry A. Ward so much has been written and said that any extended account of his distinguished career is needless. His life, wholly devoted to science and the promotion of scientific collections, shed luster upon the city of his birth. Rochester is justly proud of the work of her great son.

The Rochester Theological Seminary was organized in the same year with the University, and for a considerable time occupied the same quarters, the old United States Hotel, a building still standing on the north side of Main Street West near Elizabeth Street. This building, held in so affectionate regard by friends of the University and the Seminary, was built in 1826 by one Martin Clapp. Designed as a hotel, it soon gave place to a manual training school. It subsequently was used by the Misses Black for a girls' school; then by Miss Sarah T. Seward, also as a girl's school; in 1832 upon the completion of the first railroad from Rochester the old hotel became a railway station. On the first Monday of November, 1850, the building became the home of the University and the Theological Seminary. The peculiar surroundings of the new University attracted the attention of Emerson, who was an occasional visitor to Rochester. His comment on this Yankee enterprise is illuminating: "A landlord in Rochester had an old hotel which he thought would rent for more as a university, so he sent for a few books, put in a coach load of professors, bought some philosophical apparatus and, by the time green peas were ripe, he had graduated a large class of students."

Oddly enough the University and the Seminary, though under Baptist auspices and though closely associated in many ways, have no organic connection with each other. They

are entirely independent and, though they co-operate with each other as far as their educational fields will permit, they pursue their activities with separate trustees, separate faculties and separate endowments.

Many men of distinction have held chairs in the Rochester Theological Seminary. Indeed, it is not merely a rhetorical expression to affirm that the seminary at Rochester has been the leader of the denomination in the education of young men for the ministry.

From Madison came Thomas J. Conant to give instruction in Hebrew and exegesis. Professor Conant was one of the greatest Hebrew scholars in America. Perhaps the most distinguished scholar in either of the faculties was a man little known to the present generation, Horatio Balch Hackett. Yet Professor Hackett's reputation as a biblical student and exegetist was widely extended. Born in Massachusetts he was graduated at Amherst in 1830 and held a chair at the Newton Theological Institution for thirty years. Coming to Rochester in the full maturity of his powers he used his ripe scholarship to increase the renown of the Seminary.

The executive officer to whom the Seminary owes much of its prestige was Ezekiel Gilman Robinson, who came in 1852 as a professor, and who in 1860 was made president. Dr. Robinson retired from the Seminary in 1872 to become president of Brown University. His work at the Rochester Theological Seminary gave him the distinction of being one of the pre-eminent educators of the time.

President Robinson was succeeded by Augustus Hopkins Strong, a native of Rochester, a graduate of Yale in the class of 1857, and a man of broad learning and of distinguished executive ability. President Strong's administration of the Seminary was marked by large accessions to its endowment funds and a notable increase in its material equipment.

The library of the Seminary is celebrated as possessing the notable collection of the German ecclesiastical historian, Neander, a gift from a warm friend of the Seminary, Mr. Roswell S. Burrows of Albion.

In Rochester lived Henry O'Reilly, editor, organizer of the telegraph system and historian; Hiram Sibley, who him-

self deprived of a liberal education, recognized the value of a cultivated mind and did much to make easy the acquirement of knowledge; here lived Lewis H. Morgan, whose studies in Indian life and customs were profound; John Norton Pomeroy, one of the most eminent of American lawyers; Charles Warren Stoddard, poet, traveler and man of letters and boyhood friend of Rossiter Johnson; Theodore Bacon, scholar in many fields and son of a distinguished New England preacher; here lived James Breck Perkins, whose studies in French history of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries gave him rank as the chief American authority in that period of history.

In concluding this historical summary of Rochester we must recognize that any place must be judged by the lives of those who have given the best that was in them to the up-building of the community; those who live in Rochester are beneficiaries of the effort of those who worked in the past to make this city what it is today. Rochester would not have attained the position it now enjoys if here had not lived men of enterprise, business acumen, culture and public spirit. The predictions of the editor of the first city directory, that of 1827, have been marvelously fulfilled.

The editor of this first directory must have been a man of more than ordinary vision and discernment. The concluding paragraphs of the directory are marked by such patriotic fervor, keen intuition and an idealism so exalted as to warrant their being cherished as a notable contribution to the literature of Rochester. They are as follows:

"We have seen our village, from a log hut or two, in the deep and lonely forest, rise like the work of magick, in a few years, to the form of a busy and populous city. We have seen the forest yielding to the fruitful field, and the fruitful field to streets crowded with commerce, and wharves covered with the merchandise of every nation. From a few adventurous settlers, braving the hardships and dangers of an untried wilderness, we now see a multitude of people enjoying all the necessities and luxuries of life. The past is instructive, the future deeply interesting. Industry and enterprise, crowned by the blessing of a bountiful providence, have effected what

we see. What future achievements may not be accomplished by the same means? But a new element here enters into our calculations. It was the yielding forest and the passive earth that have been hitherto regulated and subdued; our future prosperity depends on the tractability of a mass of mind, a host of mingling opinions, passions, virtues and vices, thrown together from every quarter of the globe. Shall it rise through years to come in moral and social order and beauty? Let each citizen answer for himself; each will have his share of agency in the event; but let it be remembered, that a new instrumentality must be at work. The means that have transformed the forest will not act upon the mind. Education must be cherished; religion must be revered; luxury and vice must be abjured; our magistracy must feel the true interests of the citizens, and must be supported in their efforts to promote every virtuous, and to suppress every corrupting influence. So doing, we are permitted to anticipate prosperity. The Providence which has blessed the early, will equally smile upon the latter exertions. We may be wise and honorable, good and great, if we labor for it by the most appropriate means and with corresponding ardour. And the time has come, when, if we put forth no other energies than those which merely tend to property and wealth, they will only tend to demolish the fabrick they have reared, and render our successors a monument of the vanity and folly of human expectations. But we look for better things. We reckon on a community enlightened enough to know the value of its blessings and the way by which they must be secured. We look forward to this place at some distant day, as a flourishing city; flourishing not merely in wealth and power, but in knowledge and virtue, an honour and a blessing to sister cities around, and the home of a great people, enlightened and happy."

# The City of Tryon and Vicinity

By A. EMERSON BABCOCK

*Read before The Rochester Historical Society, January 9, 1922*

As this seems to be a time when we can pause for a brief period from the many engagements of this busy and active generation to look backward over one hundred years to the beginning of the development of this section, I have taken for the subject of this historical sketch the first attempt to found a city in Western New York, which was believed and hoped by those interested would become the great commercial city of the Genesee country. At this time this section was a wilderness. There were few settlers and what was to become the village of Rochester some day was without one single inhabitant.

Mrs. Yates, a member of our society, and State Genealogist for the Daughters of the American Revolution, found among her numerous collection of official records in her investigations in different parts of this state two very important records. Both of these records were from Ontario county, on file in this county and at Canandaigua, which I have investigated and which in a way revolutionize certain facts pertaining to the settlement of the City of Tryon, and which our historians failed to find. Official records never lie. They are always reliable excepting in a few instances some town records where carelessness is manifest. In the main, however, town records are pretty reliable. At least this has been my experience.

I desire to say to you at the start that all reference in this history to Irondequoit means the Old Indian Landing, on what is known as Irondequoit Creek, in the Town of Brighton. The town of Irondequoit set off in 1839 was never in this section, its boundary line being many miles from the subject matter in this historical sketch. In the early period of the settlement of this section, Irondequoit Creek was entered in the early crude maps as Irondequoit

River, and the Landing was known as the head of Irondequoit Bay. I invite you to go with me to a place in the Town of Brighton not over two miles from the easterly boundary of the City of Rochester. We will take the Blossom Road line of electric cars and proceed easterly to the end of this car line. From here we proceed easterly on Blossom Road about one mile to the Landing Road into which the Blossom Road extends. Turning left on the Landing Road we proceed a short distance to the end of this road. Opening a gate we cross cultivated ground toward the creek in an easterly direction say about 100 yards, when we turn left and proceed north on high ground until opposite a huge dome shaped hill, on the easterly opposite side of the creek, and we are on the site of the City of Tryon. It is on high ground and slopes gradually to a little plateau, and this plateau slopes gradually to the Creek. At its base, opposite the huge dome shaped hill I have mentioned, finds us at the site of the Old Indian Landing. This section looking off from the high ground is scenic and beautiful with a wonderfully pleasing outlook. On this high ground the City of Tryon was founded by Salmon Tryon, of Ballston, Columbia county, N. Y., in 1797. In support and proof of this statement, I enter copy of official record from the Register of Deeds of Ontario county:

"Salmon Tryon, of Ballston, sold to John Tryon, of Canaan, Columbia county, for \$3500.00. Township 13, land description not given, but states near the Gerundegut Landing, laid out by Salmon Tryon into Town Lots—1797."

Unfortunately this record came to me too late to investigate who this Salmon Tryon is. We shall find out in time and when I do I will gladly file the information as a supplementary statement to go with this paper. John Tryon, the purchaser, called by some Judge Tryon and a magistrate, I can find not one single record to justify such a statement, was evidently a man of force, influence and intelligence. He was doubtless a relation to Salmon Tryon, but to date I have no official proof of any relationship. He saw in his scheme great promise of success in the development at this place of a great commercial city.

This place you will note as we pass along in this history

was the only great assembling place for the first settlers reaching over a very wide extent of country, and was the only place this side of Canandaigua for trade and commerce. John Tryon proceeded to develop the property into what was hoped and believed would become the great commercial city of the Genesee country. It is noted Salmon Tryon was a very heavy investor in real estate in this section. Official records of Ontario county show he was probably the heaviest investor of any in this section at this time. Land sold cheaply ranging from 14 cents to \$5.00 per acre. It would seem that Salmon Tryon sold his blocked out town for a pretty good price for this early period. Of course time showed that John Tryon purchased a losing venture. What promised to be a big thing dwindled down to a failure and his friends and many of the early settlers who invested money in the scheme lost every cent they invested. The site of Rochester was very unfavorable for the building of a city owing to its being swampy and not being accessible for a large shipping trade on the big lakes. Its water power was not considered, as trade was the main object in view, and this one thing was what led the founders of the big city to consider the Landing section as being the most favorable. Forty ton schooners had no difficulty in coming from the lake up the bay to the Landing. There were no sand bars in those days to interfere with travel and Irondequoit Creek was broad and deep. One can stand on the high ground along this creek now and readily see that the distance across the Irondequoit Valley is very wide and if covered with water would look like a broad river. The Indian Landing was reached by Indian trails from every direction, one of the main trails to the east being over the top of the huge dome shaped hill I have mentioned. This trail is still plainly visible. At least it was one year ago. The main line of travel at this time was, however, by water.

This was the greatest trading center of the five nations, meaning the Iroquois composed of the five tribes, Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayugas and Senecas. It is noted the Senecas could at this time produce a war party of over 1200 warriors, it being about five times as large as any other tribe in the confederacy. I am very positive from all that I can

gather that this was the place where the French previous to the building of Fort des Sables, which was located near the Sea Breeze site, and built in 1716, ran their vessels up the Bay to the Landing, and it was here and not the Genesee river that was visited in June, 1670, by LaSalle. In 1721 we find the Assembly of New York passed an Act to establish a trading post in this section and the sum of 500 pounds was raised for this purpose Governor Burnet approved of this appropriation and selected for this purpose the following: Capt. Peter Schuyler, Jr., Lieut. Jacob Verplanck, Gilleyn Verplanck, Johannis Van Der Bergh, Peter Gronendyck, David Van der Hayden, and two others, names unknown. Gov. Burnet's instructions were very forcible and explicit and disclose the intense feeling of rivalry between the English and French governments. Schuyler is warned "to keep his eyes wide open, and to send out skouts and spyes, and be on your guard as the French are not to be trusted," significant as showing the rivalry in their efforts to secure the trade and friendship of the Indians. He is also directed to secure the co-operation of the Indians with the English, and to do anything in his power to secure the trade of the Indians away from the French and to urge them to come to Albany to trade. Quoting from Halsey's Old New York Frontier, "It is known the Indians fared badly in bargains made at Albany. They were frequently cheated in disposing of their goods, especially when in liquor. Very few of the fur traders have survived with good reputations. Many of these men were ruffians of the coarsest stamp. Who cheated, cursed and plundered the Indians and outraged their families." It is not to be wondered that the Indians became suspicious and distrustful of all white men which gradually grew to hate and caused them to bide their time for a terrible revenge when the innocent and the guilty were made to suffer alike. During the terrible times the early settlers went through during the outbreak of the Indians during the War of the Revolution, it was not the Indians alone who indulged in the greatest cruelties, but it was the painted blue eyed Tories, known as blue eyed Indians, whose acts of barbarism and fiendish cruelty were so great as to cause the Indian chieftain Brandt to con-

demn their action in no uncertain words. I was informed while a boy by either the elder Stoneburner or Squire Barnes, I do not remember which, that across the Dugway Mill race, nearly opposite the dome shaped hill I have mentioned, on a farm on the eastern side of the Creek on high ground, the skeleton of a white man was plowed up and the skull had an Indian arrow flint deeply imbedded in it. My recollection is that this skull was sent to Albany and is now in the museum there. Capt. Schuyler and his companions went to the Landing and established his trading house on a little plateau overlooking the Landing and commanding all trails that came to this place. He was in control of all lines of communication either by water or land. As this place was the key to the Indian trade situation and the key also to the large powerful Seneca tribe of Indians, one can readily see it was a strategic place. The most important of any in Western New York. It is noted that Oswego being on the main water communication between Albany and Lake Ontario, and Niagara controlling the passage to Erie and the western lakes, large forts were built at these places, and Irondequoit remained the great trading center being the key to the Indian trade, and where both the English and French governments sought to get a strong foothold. Capt. Schuyler after being at the Landing one year, he and his companions returned to Albany in September, 1722. It is noted the rivalry between the English and French in trying to gain consent of the Senecas to build a fortress at the bay. This section was a constant bone of contention for years between these two governments. It is noted that Gen. Prideaux's expedition in July, 1759, with Sir William Johnson second in command, made their camp the second day at Irondequoit and also upon their return. Also the expedition in 1764 of Gen. Bradstreet with Sir William Johnson camped at Irondequoit, and that Israel Putnam then Colonel of the Connecticut battalion was in this expedition. In 1789 John Lusk, born at Newington, Connecticut, 1748, and who was the first permanent settler in this section, associated with Prosper Polly, Gen. Hyde, Enos Stone, Job Gilbert and Jos. Chapin, purchased 1500 acres of land at the head of Irondequoit Bay. Mr. Lusk

during this year set out from his home in the Berkshires with his son Stephan and a hired man for his new possessions in the west. Arriving at Schenectady the father set out with a boat and provisions and the others by land to bring out cattle. Meeting at Canandaigua they made an ox sled and cut their way through the wilderness to their destination. Building a log cabin they cleared twelve acres of land and sowed it to wheat, the seed being purchased from Ebenezer Allan at Scottsville. This wheat was brought by canoe to the mouth of Red Creek and through the forest to their destination. In 1790 he brought his family from Massachusetts, coming by water by way of Schenectady. The son Stephan was born April 26th, 1775, and his wife, Sarah (Hench) Lusk, August 25th, 1777. He erected the first distillery in the City of Tryon, and at the same time built a large tannery. It is noted he finally settled in the town of Pittsford. The elder Lusk died in 1814, aged 66 years. In 1799 John Tryon built a store and store house, and the store was opened under the firm name of John Tryon & Company. It being the first and only store this side of Canandaigua, they did a very large and lucrative business, its customers coming from a very wide expanse of country. Through the courtesy of Mrs. Howard Smith, a granddaughter of the famous pioneer Oliver Culver about whom I will have considerable to say in this historical paper, I have had the privilege of examining the firm's books of John Tryon & Company. It is noted this store had in its indexes of accounts the names of over 122 customers. These customers came from Wayne, Ontario, Livingston and Erie counties, and a solitary customer at the mouth of Oak Orchard Creek. Among the names of customers of this store I record the following during the years, 1799-1805:

Asa Denton, William Davis, Josiah Fisk, Polly Hopkins, William Hencher, Sr. and Jr., Silas Losey, Glover Perrin, Capt. Benj. Pierson, Capt. Simon Stone, Ezekiel Taylor, James Wadsworth, Moses Taylor, John Tryon, Lewis Morgan, Isaac Stone, Joel Scudder, Nathan Fisk, Job Northrup, Oliver Phelps, Giles Blodgett, Major William Shephard, Capt. Silas Nye—1 barrel salmon, Caleb Hopkins, Joseph Palmer, Otis Walker, Reuben D. Hart, Samuel Lattie, Rufus Messenger, Caleb Martin,

Nathan Nye, Leonard Stoneburner, Orringh Stone, John Strowger, Abner White, Ruth Northrup, Miles Northrup, Augustus Griswold.

It is noted Samuel Wright's account is as follows: 5 barrels Muskrat Skins, 6 Beaver Skins, 1 Bear Skin.

The name of this store was changed to the firm name of Adams & Tryon later. It is also noticed Oliver Culver and Augustus Griswold had financial interests in this store. Liquor and wine were very freely used in those days and it is noticed this store did a large business in this line. Furs, the products of the farm, potash, salt, flour and a general line of the necessities of the age was handled by this store and sold to their customers. A great deal of business was transacted by barter with the Indians. The creek was full of salmon trout, and the country abounded with wild game of all kinds. Lumber was also an important industry, and the building of ships was quite extensive. The City was governed by its own laws, and what is called a Lynch Court was established. There were many trials and convictions. There were some who made trouble for the early settlers. These people having intermarried among the Indians it required severe discipline to make it safe to have them around. A mill costing \$15,000.00 was constructed, as well as an ashery and distillery. It was expected this would become a great shipping center and the bay be covered with freighters in a large carrying trade with Canada and other places. The first flour received in the city of Montreal came from the city of Tryon, and the first decked vessel that descended the St. Lawrence River came from this place. A warehouse was erected and the town seemed to be doing a prosperous business. In 1799 the agent for the properties, Augustus Griswold, came with five sleigh loads of goods from Schenectady, the freight costing \$3.00 for 112 lbs. Asa Dayton opened a Tavern and Stephan Lusk started in the tanning and shoe making business. I have recently learned that a Custom House was also actively engaged at this place. Asa Dunbar, a mulatto, was one of the first settlers in this section, and eventually became the owner of the Judson farm, which is spoken of as Palmer's Glen, and Judson's Glen on the Winton Road North. He is said to have

been a giant in stature and strength and from the salt springs known as a deer lick at the rear of this farm close to the creek, he boiled the salt down and sold it to his customers. I have been to these springs and am very familiar with this place. He finally removed to Canada and died there. John Boyd is also mentioned as a resident of the Landing section, and in 1800 Henry Ward, postmaster at Penfield, at that time 18 years of age, became clerk in the store of Tryon & Adams. In 1801 a blacksmith shop was erected by Silas Losea. Maude, an English traveler in 1800, speaks of the city founded at the head of the bay and of heavy shipments by water to Canada and other places. In 1804 Noah Smith built a flour mill for Tryon & Adams on Allyn's Creek. This mill was located about twenty rods north of the present embankment of the N. Y. C. railroad, and on the west bank of the stream. Oliver Griswold of Irondequoit purchased the old Allan millstones and irons for Tryon & Adams and placed them in the new mill. In 1806 Solomon Fuller built a flour mill on Irondequoit Creek and the Allan mill stones were transferred to this mill. In 1825 Isaac Barnes, father of Squire Barnes, built a grist mill on the west bank of Allyn's Creek near East avenue, and the Allan mill stones and irons were purchased by Mr. Barnes and his partner, Capt. Enos Blossom, from a Stephan Chubb and placed in this mill. The stones, fully identified as being the ones formerly used by Indian Allan, are now in the Monroe County Courthouse. It is noted the mill established by Mr. Barnes and Capt. Enos Blossom, which is still standing, will have reached the century mark in age in 1925. In 1813 the city of Tryon ceased to become a shipping center and in 1818 the store was abandoned and became a ruins. Through the courtesy of Mrs. Howard Smith, a kindness which I very gratefully acknowledge, I record a statement of Mr. Oliver Culver's, which he prepared for his family, and which I copy in full:

"I was born in East Windsor, Connectient, September 24th, 1778. My father was William Culver. My grandfather was Matthew Grant on my mother's side. My father moved to Orwell, Vermont, and from there to Ticonderoga. When in my eighteenth year I made an engagement with my excellent friend and neighbor, Amos Spofford, to join his surveying

party to go to Ohio to survey the Connecticut land, as his son, Samuel, about my age was going with him, I concluded to go. Samuel and I went on to Schenectady, we found the boats would not be ready till the last of April or the first of May, about four weeks, so we concluded we would go to Irondequoit Bay and hunt and trap until the boats came. We stopped with Asa Dunbar, a mulatto man, the only inhabitant near the bay. When the boats came we joined the party for Cleveland. We landed at Queenstown and drew our boats, four or five in number, around the falls. We went into Buffalo Creek. I do not recollect seeing any house in Buffalo except the one in which the ferryman lived. We then coasted on to where the city of Erie now stands; there was a solitary settler, Col. Seth Reed. From there we went to where Cleveland now is, and remained till the weather came cold and left. Samuel Spofford and I left the party at Irondequoit Bay, trapped and hunted till snow fell, and then went home on foot. The first year I was chainman, and was paid twelve dollars a month.

"In the spring of 1797 I returned to new Connecticut with the surveying party company. There were six boats in 1797. At Erie four boats were hauled across the sand bar, the other two, Seth Pease and Amos Spofford's boats, concluded to round the point. Spofford's boat took the lead but grounded on the bar. I had charge of Mr. Pease's boat, having had some experience on Lake Champlain. The lake was rough and it was important that I should put on more sail and keep well out to avoid the breakers. I rigged a markee for an additional sail, and by keeping well off shore I rounded the point and made the harbor safely. I observed that Mr. Pease was excited and evidently fearful that the boat would swamp, and that she was in charge of too young a man, but he was prudent enough not to interfere with my management. I had been put in charge of the boat on the recommendation of Friend Amos Spofford. The next morning after our arrival I was sent for to go to Mr. Pease's tent. He said to me:

"Young man, I owe you my life, we would all have been drowned had it not been for you."

"His unnecessary fright secured to me a good friend.

In 1797 we left a Mr. Gunn, at Conneaut Creek. We returned east in the fall, and again returned to Cleveland in 1798. 1797-98 we cut a road through to the Pennsylvania line. We cleared about six acres of land on the hill and planted it to corn. There were nearly 60 people in the party in 1796. On arriving at Cuyahugo River, we pitched our tent near the mouth, built a storehouse and comfortable log house for General Cleveland, after whom the city of Cleveland was named. Later Judge Porter surveyed the city of Cleveland while it was a wilderness. In the fall of 1798 Samuel Spofford and myself returned to Irondequoit Bay and hunted and trapped. We found some beaver, large quantities of muskrat and killed one bear that weighed 400 lbs. He attempted to swim the bay. We followed with boat and after a severe time succeeded in killing him. At the head of Lake Ontario we had a hard fight with three Indians that had stolen our traps. In the fight I received a severe cut on my head that I have the evidence of to this day. In 1800 I purchased a farm east of the present line of the city of Rochester one mile, but did not improve it at that time as I was fearful of my title, but engaged with Messrs. Tryon & Company, that about this time came to the Irondequoit Landing and purchased a tract of land, laid out a city, built a storehouse and store, and ashery. They received and shipped to Canada a large quantity of ashes, pots and pearl and other products from Bloomfield, Lima and other sections of the country, that was being cleared up, and continued to do a large business until 1812. The bay and outlet were navigable for vessels of 30 to 40 tons. I remained in their employ till the spring of 1804. I then told them I must leave them and seek my fortune in the western world. I went to Schenectady to purchase goods, having about \$700, that I had laid up of my earnings. Messrs. Tryon & Company, finding I was going to Cleveland, proposed to furnish me with a full stock of goods, together with salt, rum, brandy, whiskey, etc., as a partner in the venture. I accepted the proposition and started for Cleveland in July, 1804. My salt, liquors, and goods were hauled from Lewiston to Schlosser around the Falls of Niagara, and there shipped aboard the vessel, the Goodintent, Captain Dobbin.

"The vessel was built by Seth Reed, in 1802 at Erie. She was the first vessel built on that side of the lake. I had 157 barrels of salt and 13 barrels of liquors. I paid Captain Dobbin \$3.00 a barrel freight from Schlosser to Cleveland. I paid mostly in liquors and goods. I piloted Captain Dobbin's vessel into the harbor of Cleveland as he had never made that port. It was in the month of August, we had head winds and were eight days making the voyage. I traded with the Indians along the lake shore for about one year, and employed Michael Coffin as my helper and interpreter. He had been a long time with the Indians and was good help and faithful. I paid him \$15.00 a month and board for his services. General Granger, subsequently Post Master General, and father of the Hon. Frank Granger, was spending some time in Cleveland as an Indian agent. The General and I hunted duck and pigeon which were very plentiful. I could beat the General shooting. He had but little practice, but he claimed he killed half the game. I killed nine ducks at one shot, the General fired about the same time and insisted he killed the largest half. In 1805 I purchased a bark canoe, or a craft made of bark, that came from the upper lakes, I think Green Bay, for which I paid \$55.00. I loaded her with 4500 lbs. of furs, including muskrat, mink and bear. She had two sails. I with two men coasted the Lakes, and in due time she took us safe into Irondequoit Bay, having been gone fifteen months. The voyage paid well. I sold the bark for \$60.00 in gold to go to Montreal. From there I understand she was taken to England as a curiosity. At Cleveland I purchased 15 yoke of oxen, giving five barrels of salt for a pair. They were driven from Cleveland to Irondequoit.

"In 1805 I married Alice Ray, daughter of Isaac Ray, and commenced improvements on my farm, and have lived on it from that day to this. There was no house in Rochester at that time. Before I married I boarded with Orringh Stone. He wished me to take some corn to the Mill. I found no person to grind the corn. I put the corn in the hopper, hoisted the gate, and while the corn was being ground I looked around the place. Tall beautiful trees stood all around, but no sound or sign of human being did I discover."

He also states that when he came to Irondequoit Landing there was a fort standing there near the Creek overlooking the Indian Landing. In those early days it was the procedure of military expeditions into the wilderness to bury their surplus supplies of ammunition that were not needed, to be disinterred as circumstances required. At the site of the old fort musket balls and Indian arrow heads were found in great numbers when excavations were made for building the city of Tryon, and at a spring close to the old Indian Landing Road both on the farm of Judge Kelly and on the opposite side of the road also near a spring several bushels of musket balls are said to have been found. In the book entitled 'Phelps & Gorham Purchase,' appears a statement made to its author by Oliver Culver. I copy a part of it:

"In 1802 no school house being nearer than Pittsford, we clubbed together and built a school house of logs and hired a man by the name of Turner who was clerk in the store of Tryon & Company, to teach school. I wanted to go to school, and for my part I got logs to a saw mill and furnished the roof boards. Our first physician was John Ray of Pittsford. Our first merchant was Ira West who removed to Rochester and became the first merchant there in 1812. Samuel Spofford settled in Brighton and made the first improvements on what is now known as the Blossom farm. In 1805 myself, Orringh Stone, George Dailey, Samuel Spofford and Miles Northrup, with the help of \$50.00 appropriated by the town of Northfield, cut a road two rods wide from Orringh Stone's to the river." This must have been East avenue, although it was known in those days as the River Road. In 1811 he built the schooner Clarissa on the Roswell Hart farm, later known as the Hoyt place and now owned and occupied by Mr. Nellis, on the corner of East avenue and Clover street, and drew it to the Landing with 26 yoke of oxen. He was also one of the contractors that built the canal locks at Lockport. In 1822 he built the first packet boat in Brighton that was built as far west as this place. He also built three schooners. It is noticed that among Mr. Culver's investments in farming lands the following Warranty Deed:

"Consideration, \$1,157.14.

"Dated September 2nd, 1825.

"Acknowledged the same day.

"Recorded September 17th, 1836.

"State of Connecticut to Oliver Culver, Conveys land in Brighton being 140 acres in common and undivided in Lot 5, the second division of lots in Township 12, etc."

This investment of Mr. Culver is the present home of the writer where he has resided for fifty-four years, and which has been occupied by five generations of the Babcock family. Many years ago at the closing exercises of the Clover Street Seminary, among those who addressed the school were Joseph Hall, Isaac Moore, and Oliver Culver. Mr. Culver in his remarks stated: "He at one time carried the mail on his back while traveling on foot through the wilderness from Canandaigua to Rochester." The Town Records of the town of Brighton have the following: "Town Meeting held at Orringh Stone's, April 5th, 1814. The following officers were elected:

"Supervisor, Oliver Culver; town clerk, Nehemiah Hopkins; assessors, Orringh Stone, Ezekiel Morse, Solomon Gould; constable, Enos Blossom; school commissioners, Samuel Spofford, Enos Blossom, David Bush; inspectors school district, Enos Stone, Jobe C. Smith; pathmasters 1st district, Rufus Messenger; 2nd district, Phillip Moore; 3rd district, William Moore; 4th district, Robert M. Gordon; 5th district, Solomon Gould; 6th district, Israel Salter; 7th district, James Scofield; 8th district, Orringh Stone; 9th district, John Billinghurst; 10th district, Joseph Caldwell."

Oliver Culver was the first Supervisor of the town of Brighton, and it is noted the town paid a bounty of \$10.00 for wolf scalps as late as 1816. Mr. Culver lived until the beginning of the Civil War in 1861. His brother, John Culver, came from Vermont in 1802. One of the first men to come into this section was Captain Enos Stone, Sr., who had been employed by Phelps & Gorham to survey this part of their purchase into townships and farm lots. We find Brown Bryant, Abel Eaton, Isaac Barnes, William Davis, Moses Morris, Miles Northrup, John and Solomon Hatch, Gideon Cobb. Phillip Moore and Ezekiel Morse among the early settlers. In 1802 it is noted that Benjamin Weeks opened a

tavern at the Landing. He came from Hanford's Landing and turned down Col. Josiah Fisk's offer of fifty acres of land which extended from the aqueduct to the N. Y. C. Station for four dollars per acre, in favor of the Landing section. In 1789 this whole section was embraced in Ontario county, which was formed from Montgomery, and took in all the state westward. The United States Census the following year gave a total population of only 205 families in and west of Geneva. Brighton was organized in 1794 under the name of Northfield, which included the present town of Brighton, what has been annexed by Rochester, Pittsford, Perinton, Irondequoit, Penfield and Webster. The first Town Meeting of the town of Northfield was held in 1796, and Silas Nye of what is now Pittsford was elected supervisor and Phineas Bates, town clerk. It is noticed Orringh Stone, of what is now Brighton, was elected commissioner of highways. In 1806 the name of Northfield was changed to Boyle. Penfield was taken from it in 1810, Perinton in 1812, Webster was taken from Penfield in 1840. In 1812 the name was changed from Boyle to Smallwood, and in 1814 it was divided into two parts, the eastern called Pittsford, and the western, Brighton. Irondequoit was taken from Brighton in 1839. All allusion in this sketch to Irondequoit means the section in the vicinity of the Landing and the Bay.

One of the original purchasers of land from Phelps & Gorham in this section was General Jonathon Fassett of Vermont. He included in his purchase the whole of Penfield, and the south part of the town of Webster. He was accompanied by his son, Jonathan Fassett, Caleb Hopkins, Mr. Maybee and others. Discouraged by sickness and the endurance of traveling through the wilderness, General Fassett abandoned the enterprise and returned to Vermont. Hopkins and Maybee remained in this section. Caleb Hopkins was the first settler in what afterward became known as the town of Penfield where he built his log cabin in 1791. He afterward removed to Pittsford. It is noted he was Colonel of the 52nd Regiment, War of 1812, and served with distinction all through this war and was a brave and gallant soldier. He married the daughter of Mr. Maybee, and was

Collector of the District of Genesee in 1809. He was prominent in public affairs and has descendants living in the town of Pittsford whom I know very well. His cabin was close to the falls on Irondequoit Creek. From an old history I take the following: Captain Cornelius Treat was long a resident of the town of Mendon, to which he is said to have emigrated in 1793. He states as follows:

"In the month of October, 1795, James Wadsworth called on me to pilot him through the woods to Irondequoit, the purchase of which he had in view. We put up at the house of Caleb Hopkins. The Esquire interrogated me as to what I would have for supper. I told him he need not think himself at a tavern in Connecticut or Massachusetts, and if he got anything for supper, he might think himself well off. We asked for salmon and got it with plenty of good bread and butter, potatoes, sauce and nearly all kinds of vegetables, and very well cooked too. I never ate a better supper. The Esquire remarked we might have been in the best house in Connecticut, and not got as good as this in the wilderness. We spent four days exploring the land, putting up with Mr. Hopkins, and fared sumptuously on fresh salmon. After our examination was finished Mr. Wadsworth was so disgusted with the land he said he would not take it as a gift for it was worth nothing, and we made our way home." He afterward purchased and settled at Big Tree, now Geneseo. It is noted Mr. Maybee came from the Mohawk. He was the father of John and James Maybee, pioneer settlers of Royalton, Niagara county. Suffremus Maybee was a pioneer settler at Buffalo, and lived at the mouth of Cattaraugus Creek. A daughter was the wife of Orringh Stone. We find that later General Fassett located at the Landing on the east side of Irondequoit Bay, about two miles from the present village of Penfield. He had a plat surveyed for a town, but nothing further was done. He sold his interest to a Mr. Ham of New Jersey, who after retaining two hundred acres near Penfield Village for a home sold the remainder to General Silas Papoon, who sold out to Samuel P. Lloyd, whom I believe was one of my ancestry on my mother's side of my family and who eventually settled in the town of Greeee. Mr. Lloyd finally sold his investment

to Daniel Penfield. A few years before the war of 1812 Leonard Stoneburner came to town. He had been taken prisoner by the Indians with whom he remained some time. He went to Canada from this state where he lived about one year, after which he returned, crossing Lake Ontario and came up the Bay to the Landing. He had with him his wife and four children, William, Mary, Peter and Leonard. He leased a small building just completed on the bank of the creek of Stephan Lusk and commenced blacksmithing. One of his tools for making wagon hubs I have in my possession, the process being to spoon out the wood from the hub, into which was placed the boxes for the axles. During the War of 1812 the Landing section was very busy and active, shipping supplies and provisions to the American army in the vicinity of Eighteen Mile Creek. William Stoneburner, his son, was very active in this rather precarious business.

I knew some of descendants of Leonard Stoneburner very well, although I was then but a small boy. Their home when I knew them was to the left after passing under the large stone arch of the N. Y. Central railroad over Allyn's Creek, near the present site of the residence of Patrick Corbett. I believe a small part of the original house is still standing. At least it was a few years ago. It was originally I think of log construction and when I saw it clap-boarded on the outside. There was a married son and family but I do not remember their surnames. The father as far as I know lived a life of idleness, and the son showed very striking Indian characteristics. He seemed to be a sullen kind of an individual and I am informed by old residents there was but one man in this section with whom he would engage in conversation. My father discouraged my going to this place and after being warned to keep away from the place several times by the son while fishing on the creek, I know I thought the son especially capable of most any kind of violence. I realize now why my father desired me to avoid the Stoneburners. The father was a glib talker and as I think of him now and his conversation, uneducated. His talk was not at all instructive. At least it made no lasting impression on me. He did tell me about the explosion of the powder mills along the Creek about the

close of the Civil War and of the body of one man he found in the top of a high elm tree. These powder mills were owned by Marshfield Parsons, father to my good neighbor on East avenue. My understanding is that five men lost their lives in this explosion. A few years ago we ploughed up on our place one of the brass balls used in rolling the powder. It was about the size of a minie ball and had traveled about two miles. At the completion of the Erie Canal shipping practically ceased at the Landing. The City of Tryon, which failed to ever acquire the distinction of becoming a metropolis is now a circumstance, a matter of history. Mrs. Yates has furnished me with the following which I record in this paper:

"July 16th, 1808. Administrator appointed for the Dower of Eunice Tryon, widow and relict of John Tryon, late of Columbia county. Lands in Northfield whereof the said deceased died. Lot No. 3 in 2nd Division. Lot No. 7, beginning at a white oak stake, etc. Found in Book 3—Page 152. Ontario County Administrator."

This record establishes this fact that John Tryon died in this section. I have never been able to determine where he and Mrs. Tryon lived. It is possible they lived at Orringh Stone's, but I doubt it. I have searched all the cemetery records of Brighton, but failed to find him recorded. There was an old neglected cemetery started at an early date on East avenue, north of Winton road and next to the store of Brewer & Hartsen on the north side of this store. A private dwelling stands on the site of this cemetery, and the rear projection of this site extends into the playground of the Public School on Winton Road. The remains of the people buried here have never been removed. It is a very sad condition of things and a tremendous reflection upon somebody. Gravestones stood at these graves once, but are now all gone. It is said this cemetery was a Methodist burial ground, but I can gather but little information about it. I believe John Tryon is buried somewhere in this section. Mrs. Yates informs me she has records of cemeteries in Penfield and he is not recorded there. Considering the slow process of travel by water in the early days, it seems improbable that he could have been taken to his former home in Columbia county.

We may find some record of him this coming summer. He tried to found a city and failed, and from what I can learn about him and it is very little because of the fire at Canandaigua, which destroyed the Letters of Administration that were issued by the court to his wife in the settlement of his estate, and makes the hunt for full information an expensive and time taking affair. (I do not question for one moment that full information can be found but it is going to be a long investigation to get the facts.) It was through no fault of his that his effort here in the wilderness to found a city was a failure, but was simply the condition of circumstances. It is noted he at times signed his name as John Tryon and also as John S. Tryon. Mrs. Tryon was made Administrator of his estate in 1809, and she gave her address as Canaan, Columbia county, N. Y. The town clerk of this town informs me there are no town records back of 1881. The records of the Congregational church and society at Canaan Four Corners state they have records of births from 1740 to 1805. I hope to investigate these records. The First Presbyterian church of this town has nothing back of 1830. Ballston has no church records back of 1783. The records of Ontario county show that John Tryon's wife's maiden name was probably Eunice Wright and that they had a son named Wright Tryon, and a daughter, Cornelia Tryon. At any rate it so appears from the deeds of record in Ontario county. These records are as follows:

Salmon Tryon to John Tryon, August 25th, 1797, the site of the City of Tryon. Found in Book C, Page 3, County Clerk's office, Canandaigua.

John Lusk of West Stockbridge, Massachusetts, for 200 pounds in money to Salmon Tryon of Ballston, Saratoga county, N. Y., July 23rd, 1796, as follows:

All land, Township 13, on Genesee River in county of Ontario, state of New York. Lots 17-18 containing 5 $\frac{1}{2}$  acres each. Lot No. 3 containing 210 acres. Reserving house lots, part of the described premises near the Gerundegut Landing, which the said Salmon Tryon caused to be laid out in Town plots. Lots 9-33-38. Each containing  $\frac{1}{2}$  an acre, and lot 32 containing 4 rods by 37-100, according to a survey of the same by Jobe French.

Book 19, Page 451. Eunice Tryon is recorded as Administrator on estate of John Tryon, January 23rd, 1813. The record of Administration is at the Surrogate's office at Canandaigua, but the official papers were destroyed by fire about 1822. She received her decree from the Court as Administrator in 1809.

Book 6, Page 316. Ontario county records we find as follows:

Deed, John S. Tryon to Cornelia Tryon. Land in the village of Ballston, that formerly belonged to Salmon Tryon. Reserving dower rights for Eunice Tryon, from Sheriff of the county, dated 1778. Lots in Township 13, bounded by the Genesee River. Reserving town lots at Gerundegut Landing, laid out by Salmon Tryon. The same subject to dower rights for Eunice Tryon.

This last transfer, to whom we presume was John Tryon's daughter, is a very long deed and transfers a large amount of land. It is interesting to note he did not deed away his wife's dower interest in this real estate. These transfers show he had some object in putting his real estate in the hands of his daughter, as it is noted it was done some time prior to his decease. It is noted Sir William Tryon was Governor of the Province of New York, first, July 9th, 1771, and again June 28th, 1775. During the War of the Revolution New York paid no attention to his governorship. In the book entitled "New York in the War of the Revolution," appears the following:

"William Tryon, in the Levies. Gen. Marinus Willett."

"John Tryon, New York Line, 5th Regt., Col. Louis Dubois, Lieut. Col. Marinus Willett."

"John Lusk is also recorded, May 5th, 1778, to January, 1778, Page 194, N. Y. Line."

The War Department at Washington, D. C., has the following:

"Neither the name John S. Tryon, nor the name Salmon Tryon, has been found in the records on file in this office, of soldiers in the War of the Revolution. The records show, however, that one John Tryon served in that war as a Sergeant in Captain James Stewart's Company, 5th New York Regiment, commanded by Col. Lewis Duboys. He enlisted January 1st, 1777, for three years. His place of residence is given as Livingston's Manor. Albany county, N. Y."

I have not entered in this paper a complete record of the above John Tryon for the reason that his record on file in the War Department shows this particular John Tryon had a very unfortunate and discreditable record. The War Department states its records of soldiers of the War of the Revolution in the Adjutant General's office are very incomplete and a further investigation is advised. The County Clerk of Columbia county advises me there is but one deed of record

from John Tryon, and that was of local property in 1802. My recent information about Salmon Tryon, the name Salmon being a very unusual name, is that there was a Salmon Tryon in Litchfield, Connecticut, in 1778. It is noted also there was a General Tryon in New York who was in the British Army during the War of the Revolution. His relationship to the Governor of New York Province, Sir William Tryon, who is said to have come from the North of Ireland, and was born in 1725, will be a difficult undertaking. The relationship of Salmon, John and Huldah Tryon I am advised can be easily established from Connecticut records. I am informed there was a Huldah Tryon, born 1740, of the family who earlier came from Wethersfield, Connecticut. To establish these relationships would take time and expense and I have been advised not to undertake it. The Tryon family seem to have come from Connecticut. I hope to personally go further into this investigation. I visited the Landing many times while a child, and as recently as last summer. Irondequoit Creek, no longer a river, is now a shallow stream fordable in places with rubber boots during the summer. I have a clear recollection of the standing spiles of the Indian Landing Bridge which are now all gone. The timber is gone from the hills and one sees the thrifty homes of the Dutch Holland people who grow fruit and garden truck for the markets. With grub hoe and axe these people have placed the surrounding hills of what appeared to be worthless soil into a condition of fertility that yields to them a good production and a prosperous living.

The lines of the trail over the huge dome shaped hill remain, although not as distinct as it was. Tradition reports Denonville upon his return from his expedition against the Senecas lost a brass cannon off from a batteaux in the Ox Bow of Irondequoit Creek. This traditional story has been talked as a fact by many of the descendants of the old families. A great many people have searched diligently for that old cannon and I must plead guilty of doing some of this work also. This Ox Bow is quite long possibly one half mile by stream and is called by this name because the bends in the creek resemble an old fashioned Ox Bow. The stream here even to this day is quite broad and deep. Squire Barnes,

son of Isaac Barnes, pioneer settler, I knew very well. He was an educated and well informed man and a great reader and student. He was by trade a miller and the old mill where he lost his life owing to an accident still stands but a short distance from East avenue, the mill now being owned and operated by his son. He was a kindly man and very fond of children. I have taken many a pleasant ramble with him along the Allyn's and Irondequoit Creeks. He made many historical investigations of this section with the late George Harris.

His reference to the dangerous characters in the old Landing vicinity at an early date when he says they made their headquarters in the Ox Bow section of the Creek at a place called Smugglers Cove recalls to my mind many stories I have heard about the lawlessness of some in this section. He claimed Denonville had a battle with the Senecas on the west side of the creek on the present farm of Isaac DeRoo. It is said French battle axes have been ploughed up on this farm and I tried to secure one but was told they had been given to children to play with and were lost. I did, however, find a part of a flint lock musket on this farm. We all know of course this battle of Denonville's occurred further up the Creek, which demonstrates the unreliability of some traditional sayings which follow through the lives of the different generations of people. A short distance north of the Tryon site is old sugar loaf hill and tradition states an Indian squaw visited this place annually and dug down into its soil looking for treasure Captain Kidd is said to have buried there. This section was certainly wild enough once for anything. We will accept the story for what it is worth. I am, however, inclined to think that Butler and his force of irregulars were familiar with this section. I cannot prove this statement but I am certain these finds of so many musket balls at the many springs in this section which were doubtless the sites of camps means the presence at some time of an army. I have heard from several sources from the descendants of the early pioneers that Butler's Rangers made their headquarters in the Ox Bow section of the creek. A few years ago in company with Mr. C. M. Barnes, son of Squire Barnes, now 78 years

of age, after a severe storm we walked over the Landing section and site of the City of Tryon. Finding a large elm tree uprooted by the storm, brick was noticed under its roots. I made an investigation and found a brick fireplace, the brick being similar to those in Washington's barn at Mt. Vernon.

There has been a yearly harvest of Indian relies in this section as far back as I can remember. Unfortunately when I could have gathered a large supply I was too young to realize their value. One year ago while walking over this section I picked up a few very good Indian arrow heads. I have a very fine specimen of stone tomahawk picked up at a camping place on a farm opposite the Riches Dugway road. Also on the corner of this road was picked up a large copper medal about the size of a large penny. On one side is cut of schooner with all sails set and the following inscription: "To the Commerce of Upper Canada." On the other side, "Sir Isaac Brock, Bart" the hero of Upper Canada, who fell in the glorious battle of Queenstown Heights on the 13th of October, 1812. While contractors were excavating rock in Allyn's Creek in front of Barnes mill a Spanish silver piece was blasted out of the rock.

Large game were very plentiful in the early days all through the Landing section. Dr. J. P. Wheeler, an old resident of this town who has now passed away, once told me he picked up a fine specimen of deer antlers along the creek and after looking it over threw it away. Among those of prominence who came early to this section from Lennox, Massachusetts, were General Caleb Hyde, Captain Enos Stone, Sr., Captain John Gilbert, Captain Timothy Allyn, John Lusk, Joseph Chapin, Prosper Polly, and Azariah Eggleston. All of these men served as officers during the War of the Revolution. Captain Stone was Judge of County Court, and Judge of Probate for the County of Berkshire. I have no doubt but that he knew all of my people in Berkshire county, Massachusetts. Captain Timothy Allyn, after whom Allyn's Creek was named, the name being spelled Allyn, purchased 500 acres of land in this section and his home was on the Creek Road, a short distance from East avenue. It is noted he sold this land

to John and Solomon Hatch. They with Oliver Culver built a saw mill on Allyn's Creek. I have a very clear recollection of this old building which was only a short way south from East avenue on the Creek and in plain view from the East avenue bridge over the Creek. Abel Eaton, another pioneer, at that time owner of what we now designate as the Dryer farm on the Landing Road, opened a public house where the Cain house now stands on the Landing Road, which is close to where this Landing Road runs into the present East avenue. He had, I am informed, a good sized building with a room in the second story prepared for dancing parties. He sold this property later to Marshfield Parsons, the former owner of what is now the golf links of the Rochester Country Club. It was no light task for these hardy pioneers to clear the timber off from the land in this section with the primitive tools of the age. Fevers incidental to a new country were prevalent and destructive and many passed away before getting fairly started in their new abode. At the close of the War of 1812, after Buffalo was burned, the country took on a great increase in growth and began to fill up rapidly. Previous to this time fear of the Indians held back the strong growth that came later. Mr. George H. Harris, in his writings, speaks of the following incident:

"About 1821, Charles M. Barnes, Calvin and Russell Eaton and a fourth boy named Stanley noticed a man about seventy years of age looking around at various objects, and, inquiring what he was looking for, was informed by the stranger he was looking for a white oak tree which he camped under while with Sullivan's army, and that the day after the fight he slept under this tree. He told the boys his name and rank but upon being shown a white oak stump he was uncertain as things had changed so much since he was there." I have heard the same story from Squire Barnes and others, but my information was that he had on an old faded army coat and the tree was a button wood tree. Its location as pointed out to me was on an island in Allyn's Creek and but a short distance from the bridge on East avenue over the creek a short distance from the Creek Road. After General Sullivan had destroyed the villages of Canandaigua, Honeoye and Little Beards Town,

(Cuylerville), the Indians fled into the wilderness, finally reaching Fort Niagara. Sullivan's officers in their diaries make no mention of proceeding down the Genesee River. Early pioneers claim evidence of finding boats at or near the mouth of Red Creek, which Indians said were Sullivan's. As scouting parties of his army were constantly on duty, it is possible that one of the parties did chase the Butlers and their crew down Red Creek to its mouth and then proceeded over land to the Landing. From the mouth of Red Creek to the Landing is not a very long march and it is possible this story of the man looking for his camping place may be true. I have often thought those squatters in the Landing section who inter-married among the Indians and required a Lynch Court to make them behave may have been some of these Tories who were in Butler's army.

It is noted those settlers who cleared their land in the early days sowed it to wheat and reaped their crop with the primitive tools of the age. The same with its threshing which was done mostly with flails to be followed later by the use of horses or oxen being used as a treadmill. Several kinds of home inventions were used to clean the threshed grain before going to mill. It is noted wheat brought at the mill from 32 to 62 cents per bushel. The settlers as a general thing assisted each other during their harvest and in all important out of door work. If the man of the house died, the wife and children carried on the work with the assistance of the neighbors. Sickness in a family called for immediate attention from all the neighbors and these neighbors were a long distance apart. I was told the other day of a circumstance of a man who had lost all he had and was ill and in want. His neighbors at church meeting brought his condition before the congregation and all voluntarily chipped in and built this man a new home and stocked his place with fuel and supplies. Assemblages to help one another were called bees, and after the work at hand was completed came recreation found in wrestling, exhibitions of strength and feats of shooting with the long heavy rifle of the period. (Turkey shoots were a common occurrence when at a distance of 100 yards off-hand shooting the turkey became the property of the

successful shot who severed its head with the bullet). The rifle was the settler's constant companion and the most of these hardy men were expert shots. The women assisted their husbands and the whole family worked hard from daylight to darkness. The women found their recreation in parties, quilting bees, apple parings, corn huskings and at times when they all came together to help one another.

Horseback was the main way to travel and it was not uncommon for a woman to start out on horseback to visit friends in the east, after the danger from Indian troubles had subsided. The young men frequently journeyed to the east to visit their friends and brought their brides back with them to their home, a crude log cabin in the wilderness. Liquor was freely used and more than one family suffered from the too free use of what was considered to be indispensable to have in the family. To conduct a tavern was an honorable business and the tavern keeper was considered to be one of the most respected men in the community.

The garments of the early settlers were made mostly at home, the result of economy and necessity. Flax and hemp were grown. The latter after a while, owing to the expense of raising, was abandoned. Shirts were generally made from flax and hemp, and a wool garment was a luxury. Buckskin breeches and those made from hemp were in common use. The home-made products of the loom and the spinning wheel were the products of the maidens and women of long ago. The buzz of the spinning wheel and the double shake of the loom were daily pleasant sounds in nearly every family, and their operation a loved avocation. The long web which unfurled like a carpet, bleached in the sun under their care and supervision, and aided by the carding and fulling mills, the wool from the sheep and the flax from the fields were manufactured into homespun and worn common. Sabbath and holiday suits were worn with laudable pride, as the skilful manufacture of mother, wife or daughter. Ordinary cowhide boots cost seven dollars per pair, payment being made in wheat with ruling prices generally about 62 cents per bushel. The Indian moccasin was in general use, but the men usually went with bare feet until the advent of cold weather. Calico

dresses made up by the wearer served both for the reception of company at home and for the parties abroad.

Land values on the frontier ranged from 18 cents to \$5.00 per acre, the latter price being for land with its timber partly removed. Some instances are found of the sale of large tracts here as low as 14 cents per acre. The early pioneer's requirement for sufficient capital to marry and settle down into a home was small. We find oxen brought from \$60.00 to \$70.00 per yoke. A cow cost \$15.00. The tool outfit for the farm complete could be had for \$20.00, the necessary ox cart for \$30.00, the total outfit costing \$135.00. A log house with two rooms built by hired labor cost about \$100.00. Most of the pioneers, however, built their own homes with cordial assistance from their neighbors.

The early settlers believed in the importance of religious worship and the advantages of education. Frequently they taxed themselves voluntarily to build a meeting house or a school. Sunday at church was a day for general assemblage when the service and opportunity to visit with neighbors made this one of the most desired days of the week. They labored as a single unit to accomplish results that were desired and the majority of the religious belief determined the kind of society that was established. I have discovered in my genealogical work in New England many instances where the pioneer settlers voluntarily borrowed and placed themselves in debt so they might have a place for public worship. It is noted the first marriage in this section took place in 1790, and the seven daughters of William Hencher soon followed, as follows: William Hencher was born, 1742. Married, first, Ruth Bollinger; 2nd, Mehitable Moffet.

Children of William Hencher and Ruth Bollinger Hencher: Thomas, born 1761, married Sarah Lamb; Ruth; Abigail, born 1770; Deborah, born 1764; Priscilla, born 1767, married Capt. Joseph Richardson.

Children by 2nd wife, Mehitable Moffet Hencher: Mehitable, married Thomas Lee at Pittsford; Mary (Polly), married Bartholomew Maybee; Sarah, married Stephen Lusk, her 2nd husband, and his 2nd wife; Chloe, married Abel

Rowe; William, married Lucretia Granger; Persis, married Jonathan Leonard; Amy, married a Clement of Ohio; Hannah, married Donald McKensie.

The marriages were happy as shown by the testimony of the aged now passed away.

On September 18th, 1817, the Brighton Presbyterian church was organized and founded by the Rev. Solomon Allen. Nine men and thirteen women comprised the original membership. They were as follows: Daniel West, Daniel Smith, Henry Donnelly, Joseph Bloss, Orringh Stone, Joshua Cobb, John Morse, Charles Warring, Daniel Smith, Jr., Hannah Donnelly, Zeriah Walker, Electa Smith, Amy Bloss, Laura Bush, Matilda Barnes, Martha Titus, Betsey Hatch, Clarissa Howes, Sally Stone, Elizabeth Loder, Margaret Hemingway, Huldah Dickenson.

Many of these people have descendants still living in Rochester and this section. The church was of the Congregational order and the first Deacons are the first three names on the list. They were set apart January 5th, 1818, by prayer and an address from Mr. Allen, at the home of Orringh Stone on East avenue. Quoting from a sermon delivered in the Brighton Presbyterian church by its then pastor, the late Rev. Dr. Joseph Page, Jr., who was one of the most scholarly and most loved pastors that ever preached in Brighton church.

The Rev. Solomon Allen was a remarkable man. At the age of twenty-five years while living in Northampton, Mass., at the breaking out of the War of the Revolution, he and his four brothers entered the patriot army, in which he rose to the rank of major. When Andre was arrested as a spy, he was officer at the outposts and carried the dispatches taken from him to the commanding officer at West Point. He also took a commanding part in quelling the famous insurrection of Shays in Massachusetts. At the age of forty years he experienced religion. In five years he became deacon in his church. He desired to preach the gospel, though he had not received the education usually required. The ministers he consulted suggested difficulties, chiefly from his deficient education and his age. He was very reluctant to listen to them. In his extremity he laid the matter before Dr. Timothy

Dwight, president of Yale College, who advised him to go forward and preach. Thus encouraged he gave himself to a diligent study of the Scriptures, in the knowledge of which he excelled. He also read the works of Howe and Baxter and adopted their views of theology. Dr. Dwight aided him to enter the ministry and he was fifty-three years of age when he was licensed. For one year he labored in the small towns of Hampshire county, and then became a missionary in the wilds of Western New York. Though a poor man, he made his chosen employment a labor of love, taking no remuneration for his services beyond the supply of his personal needs. For sixteen years he toiled in this region with an occasional visit to his home in the East. During this time he gathered and organized four churches, and was instrumental in the conversion of some two hundred souls. He first preached in Naples (then Middletown), near the head of Canandaigua Lake, where he was ordained and installed by Council, December 5th, 1805. In May, 1809, he organized the church in Pittsford and supplied it for two years. He also preached in Riga, Penfield and other towns. He was not esteemed a great preacher, though he presented Gospel truth with striking directness and simplicity. He was remarkable in prayer and also excelled in pastoral work. His capacious saddle bags were filled with Bibles, tracts, catechisms, and small religious books for gratuitous distribution.

The first Sabbath School he established one year before the Brighton Presbyterian church, and two years before any similar school was started in Rochester. It was on Clover street in the present tenant house of the writer, the next house south from my residence. Among the teachers were Miss Donnelly, daughter of Deacon Donnelly, now Mrs. Martha Peck, and Mrs. Walker, daughter of Deacon West. The singing was led by Mr. David Bush, father of the Rev. Dr. Charles P. Bush. Either Mr. Allen himself, who was regular in attendance, or Mr. Otis Walker, was Superintendent. This school commenced in the Spring of 1816, and was held at 9 o'clock in the morning. Mr. Allen had two sons, Solomon and Moses, who were eminent bankers. Solomon had his residence in Philadelphia, Moses in New York, where for

nearly half a century he was the highly esteemed treasurer of the American Tract Society, and no firm in either city had a more honorable standing than that of S. & M. Allen. They supplied their father with funds for his own use, and to aid him among the settlers, some of whom were very poor and needed pecuniary assistance to fit themselves and their families for the service of public worship and the Sabbath School. A story is told which exhibits the simplicity of his own character, and also the primitive type of early society. The numerous children of a poor family were destitute of clothing to attend Sabbath School. He was the possessor of a piece of pink and red calico. This he gave the family to make frocks for the girls, and pants and coats for the boys, so a complete outfit was provided for all of the children.

It is noted Mr. Allen had good backing in his ministerial work. There were Deacons Smith, West and Donnelly, and later Deacons Stillson, Bloss, Fisher, Mudge, Thomas Blossom, Beckwith, Daniel J. Smith and others. At one of his services a bear leisurely trotted along making his way in the direction of the river.

He accepted the scant accommodations which the rude cabins of the poor afforded and frequently he suffered from exposure with nothing but a blanket to protect him from the biting winds and fierce storms, and bitter frosts of winter. His health began to fail and his sons urged him to return to the East, but while he desired to please them, he felt the responsibility of his work and decided to remain. Late in the fall of 1820 his sons persuaded him to return to his home and he died in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, where his remains lie in the old burying ground, January 19th following, aged seventy years. Of his ministrations in his home town of Pittsfield, Berkshire county, Massachusetts, we have little knowledge. I have, however, the following which may prove interesting to any member of Brighton Presbyterian church who may be present: "The Rev. Solomon Allen of Pittsfield, Massachusetts, with the Reverends Collins of Lanesborough, Dorrance of Windsor, Pomeroy of Worthington, Ballantyne of Washington, Nash of Middlefield, and Leland of Partridgefield (now Peru), assisted in the installation of the Rev. Caleb

Knight, pastor elect, to the first Congregational church of Hinsdale, Berkshire county, Massachusetts, in 1802.

This church was founded in 1795 at the house of my three great grandmother's son, John Babcock, whose wife, Eunice, later with him united with this church. My three great grandmother, Elizabeth (Plumb) Babcock, being one of the original twenty-three members of this church, uniting at this service. It is very interesting, especially to us her descendants, that the Rev. Solomon Allen knew our people and that they heard him preach. The above is taken from the book, Centennial of the First Congregational Church of Hinsdale, Massachusetts, 1795 and 1895.

Orringh Stone was settled by his father, Capt. Enos Stone, nearly across from the big rock on East avenue known as Council Rock. He settled there in 1790 and kept a tavern, the only public house this side of Canandaigua. His title of Major came from his services in the militia at what was called Trainings, when the people assembled for military drills and instruction. He was a large man of dark complexion and in establishing his military record I was obliged to write to the War Department at Washington, where I am informed he is not recorded in the army and did not serve in any of our wars. He took an active part in town affairs, and was active in church matters, both he and his wife being members of the Brighton Presbyterian church and their remains are buried in the Brighton cemetery. As one of the officers in this church I had in my possession a well preserved record of a meeting of the board of trustees of this church at schoolhouse No. 2, and it is noted he was a member of this Board. He was very much respected in this community, and from the records I have been able to gather in relation to him, I infer he was a man of great determination and popular among his fellows. Many celebrities stopped at his public house and at one time he must have had a large number of regular boarders. What a pity it is that we have so meager a record of these guests. His location was but a short distance from the Landing and the City of Tryon. An unusually wide trail ran from his place to the Landing, straight as the arrow flies, not more than a little over one and one-half miles distant.

Those who came early to this section came in a large degree by water. It was the main and easiest line of communication with this section. Major Stone and his father probably knew every celebrity that ever came into this section and it seems strange that no record is available that can give us more of the information we desire about this famous hostelry. Historians by the score have recorded the names we know that have stopped at this place. It seems superfluous to copy their names again in this sketch, but in order to complete our record it will have to be done. In 1797 the banished exiles from France, Louis Phillippe, the last king of the French, with his brothers and Thomas Morris of Canandaigua, on their way to see the Falls of the Genesee, stopped at the Stone Tavern. It is also said that Aaron Burr and his daughter, Theodosia, stopped there, as well as the Indian chieftain Brandt. It is also claimed that Lafayette in 1824, upon his return to Canandaigua, stopped there and was received by Miss Harriet Stone, mother of the Misses Hagaman who shook hands with him. To the best of my knowledge and belief there has been little change made from the original structure as it was in the days when it was a tavern. In the early days there was no fence in front of the house and the road led directly up to its door.

The late Col. Joseph H. Cogswell, of Titusville, Pennsylvania, frequently called to see me when in Rochester, and we had many enjoyable times discussing the early history of this section and his people. One of his stories I remember is as follows: "One of my earliest recollections was of going to mill with my grandfather, Joseph Bloss, who died in 1838. The mill was at Allyn's Creek and then carried on by Isaac Barnes. On our way when we reached the Rock and Elm, we drove up to Major Stone's house, opposite, originally a tavern. There was at the time no road fence in front and teams could drive up as they did when it was a wayside inn. The only thing I can remember of their conversation was that Major Stone said: 'Esquire Bloss, whose boy have you got with you?' To be noticed at all by so important a person as Major Stone made a strong impression on my mind." He also stated that the first cider mill in Brighton was in an orchard on the Stone

place. He said: "The apples were crushed with a big wooden roller, a wheeler four or five feet in diameter, with a twelve or fourteen inch face running in a circular flat bottomed trough. Several opening were made in the side of the trough and barrels sunk in the ground to catch the juice as it ran out. The balance of the cider was pressed out in the usual way. The press screw was of wood and eight or ten inches in diameter. The wheel was connected by a bar four or five inches square and four or five yards long to an upright revolving post in the center of the circle circumscribed by the trough. The bar extended through the wheel far enough to allow an attachment by which a horse traveling in a circle, drew the apple crushing juggernaut. Little or no iron was used in making this cider mill. Wood was plentiful, but iron and working it up cost money."

I recall as the days pass along my many pleasant visits with Col. Cogswell who frequently came to see me in company with Mr. Joseph B. Bloss, after my father had passed away.

I feel this historical sketch would be incomplete without brief mention of the Moore family. Isaac Moore was born in New Jersey in 1787. In 1824 he settled in Brighton, where he married the daughter of the late Joseph Bloss, Esq. Mr. Joseph B. Bloss of our city has kindly written for me a very complete history of the Moore family and the home where I reside, which is approaching the century mark of its existence. There are many old homes in Brighton but probably none more noteworthy than the old place on Clover street. I have given you the early transfer of this place, Oliver Culver's deed of record from the State of Connecticut. Many celebrities were at different times entertained in this house by the Moore family. The Hon. William H. Seward, then Governor of New York, frequently visited here and made speeches to assembled crowds from a rear porch on the south side of the house.

On June 24th, 1845, Isaac Moore and his wife, Amy K., conveyed to Mr. Moore's sister-in-law, Celestia Bloss, five acres of land off from his farm fronting on Clover street and Elmwood avenue, for school purposes. Here was erected and conducted for many years one of the most celebrated and

widely known schools for young ladies that there was in this country, and which was known as the Clover Street Seminary. On August 26th, 1868, my father and grandfather purchased this place which has become a homestead in our family. Miss Bloss's first school was in my present residence and later in the building south of my residence which was called in those days, "The little white school house." A portion of this building was removed at a later date to the corner of Elmwood avenue and Clover street, and is a part of the present residence of Mr. Bruce Lindsay. The building south of my house when we moved here was a story and one-half structure with the usual large timber construction of this early period. Black-boards and built-in seats were visible when we came to Brighton. Mr. Moore's greatest ambition in life was this Clover Street Seminary, and he never failed to be present at the closing annual exercises of this school. His was a strong, unyielding character. Whatever he decided to do was done in a thorough manner. In the early days liquors and wines were freely used in all families, in fact it was considered to be a necessity and it was believed to be impossible to accomplish anything without it. Private stills were in operation on large country estates and it was considered to be a breach of hospitality not to have it on the side-board for visiting guests or callers. When we came to Brighton a still was on this place. When the Sons of Temperance move started there was an immediate reform. Mr. Moore and his friends threw away their liquors and sick or well not a drop passed their lips during the remainder of their lives. Mr. Moore at his own expense hired a temperance lecturer and supplied him with a horse and buggy to travel through the county preaching temperance. He was a brick manufacturer and all the brick in my residence was manufactured on the place. It is also said that the barns on my place were the first barns erected in Western New York on strictly temperance principles. Houses in those days were built more with regard to necessity than convenience. The start was generally made small, and increased by building additions as the family became larger. Isaac Moore married Amy Kennedy Bloss, April 8th, 1823. Mr. Joseph B. Bloss, father, and Mrs. Moore

were brother and sister. Mr. Moore doing a large business was sometimes forced to seek financial accommodations at the bank. He applied once at a bank of which one of the Rochesters was President, offering his note to Mr. Rochester for coin or bills or drafts. He and Mr. Rochester had a long conversation in the back part of the bank, which was in the rear of the cashier's window. The upshot of the interview was that Mr. Rochester told him he would be glad to let him have the money but the bank did not have it. Mr. Moore thanked him for his good intentions and walking around to the cashier's window shoved in his note saying, "Discount that note if you please, Mr. Cashier." "Certainly, Mr. Moore," said the cashier. Mr. Moore took the money and walked out. When the cashier had made his entries he went back to the rear window and calling to Mr. Rochester said, "Mr. Rochester, I saw Mr. Moore talking with you in the back office and discounted his note. I suppose it is all right." Mr. Rochester jumped up, saying, "Which way did that man go? I told him I did not have the money." He finally overtook Mr. Moore and in an upbraiding tone and manner addressed him, "Mr. Moore, I told you I did not have the money." "I know you did, Mr. Rochester, but your cashier probably knew better than you did about the money in the bank. I guess he will get his money when the note comes due," and Moore walked off with the proceeds of the note.

Another incident. With some hesitation another banker discounted one of his notes and as possibly the times were hard and the business outlook uncertain, the lender remarked as the cashier was handing him the money, "I suppose, Mr. Moore, you will pay that note when it becomes due." Mr. Moore slowly counted the bills and, when he had satisfied himself the amount was correct, put the money into his pocket and looking up said, "No, I will not." "Why not?" asked the surprised lender. "Because," replied Mr. Moore, "I want Mr. Blythe, your book-keeper over there, to whom you do not pay half salary enough, to make the protest fees on it." Lack of space in this already too full paper will prevent my quoting further from Mr. Bloss's fine records.

Mr. and Mrs. Moore raised a wonderfully interesting and

intelligent family. After the decease of Mr. Moore, his son, Caleb, became the business man of the family. At the time of the Civil War, he organized the 8th N. Y. Cavalry and was captain of his company and led in a raid around Richmond. Later he became Colonel of the 22nd Cavalry until superseded by direction of Horatio Seymour, Governor of New York, at the close of the war. He was supervisor of his town and sheriff also of this county. He returned from the war badly broken in health and his remains now rest in the Brighton cemetery. A large handsome monument stands at his grave erected by his comrades and friends in Brighton. One of the daughters, Mary Moore, was one of the most attractive, refined and intelligent women I ever knew. I attended her select school in Brighton village for many years, William Barnes of Albany and his two sisters attending this school at the same time. Jacob Moore was a great horticulturist and originated and discovered many valuable kinds of fruits. The son, Isaac, I never knew. I was, however, acquainted with the daughter that married the Rev. John Wickes, of Attica, New York. I very much regret that I cannot proceed further with the history I have of this family and the Clover Street Seminary, but must stop as this paper is growing most too fast.

Across the road on East avenue a little further to the north nearly opposite Stone's Tavern stood the old Rock and Elm, known as Indian Council Rock. Lack of time will prevent my going into details of the battle I had to preserve this historic landmark from the ruthless efforts of State Road contractors to destroy this old relic while I was Supervisor of the Town of Brighton. I have known this place and the home of Orringh Stone practically all my life. I know the present occupants and owners of this place very well, it now being owned by the two daughters of the late Mrs. Tolan, one of whom lives on this place, and whose mother had me in charge when I was a child in the cradle and lived in the town of Irondequoit. By the side of the old Rock stood an enormous elm tree which sheltered many a weary wayfarer. Its proteeting branches preserved the old rock to a great extent from the action of the elements for probably two cen-

turies of time. It is said the action of the elements and old age caused this massive tree to begin to decay. Its center began to become hollow and during the Clover Street Seminary period it is said many young ladies and gentlemen used its hollow receptacle for much correspondence between them. It is also said that at an Indian council held there an Indian chieftain buried his tomahawk deeply into its trunk in emphasizing some of his statements. I have never heard of this tomahawk ever being found. Indian councils were held here in the early days. It is so recorded in tradition, and the oldest man now living in what used to be a part of the town states he remembers two Indian councils held there and that Orringh Stone took the firearms and accoutrements of the Indians away from them before the Indians went into council because of the prevalence of liquor at this time. Mr. Perrin, now 96 years of age, who gave me this information, also stated he saw Red Jacket addressing the Indians at one of these councils. We all know of course that a black bear was once killed on this Rock, and that the eccentric preacher, Lorenzo Dow, once preached from this Rock.

I have been handed by Mrs. Yates the following records which are of interest: On August 3rd, 1795, Salmon Tryon, of Ballston, Saratoga county, New York, sold to Abraham Harding, of Minisink Town, Orange county, New York, one-half of a lot in Township 13, Range 4, forty feet due east of the head of a spring by the name of Deep Rattlesnake spring, east of the west bank of Irondequoit Creek. The other one-half, 105 acres, being sold to Timothy Allyn of Ontario county. Also Salmon Tryon of Ballston to Timothy Allyn, one-half Y-lots. Township 13, Range 4th, 40 feet due east of the head of a spring known by the name of Deep Rattlesnake spring. East of the west bank of Gerundegut Creek, August, 1797.

There is but one Rattlesnake spring in the town of Brighton and that is located on the Landing Road on the old Matthew Dryer farm, purchased from Daniel Penfield, March 7th, 1817, and from Theodore Sedgewick, by Attorney C. Seymour, April 29th, 1823. Abel and Catherine Eaton also January 13th, 1831. I am of the opinion there must be a deed of record from Capt. Timothy Allyn to Daniel Penfield, and

also to Abel Eaton, which if found would definitely determine the line to Mr. Dryer. In my opinion the Abraham Harding investment mentioned was in this farm afterward owned by Matthew Dryer and upon which his great-granddaughter, Mrs. Theodore Benedict, resides. The Harding genealogy is as follows:

Abraham Harding, born in Warwick, Rhode Island, June 14th, 1720. Removed to Waterford, Connecticut, and in 1761 to Minisink, Orange county, New York. He served in the War of the Revolution under Col. William Allison as 2nd Lieutenant, and 2nd Major, and was commissioned Captain by the Provincial Congress, December 1st, 1775.

Abraham Harding, Jr., his son, born at Port Jervis, New York, 1740, removed to Wyoming Valley, Pennsylvania, where the grandfather had settled and then to Richland county, Ohio, where he died in 1839. He married Huldah Tryon in 1762.

George Tryon Harding, the second son of Amos, was born in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, in 1790, and removed to Ohio in 1820.

His son, Charles Alexander, was born in 1820, died in 1878. Married Mary Ann Crawford, a member of the F. F. V.'s, and had George Tryon Harding, the President's father.

It is noted that Abraham Harding, Jr., married Huldah Tryon, who was doubtless related to Salmon and John Tryon. I do not doubt for one moment but that the Harding investment in this section was influenced by the marriage into the Tryon family. My information from Miss Abigail Harding, the President's sister, is that Huldah Tryon came from Waterford, Connecticut. The town clerk of this town has not answered my letter of inquiry to date. Doubtless in time we will have full information in regard to this matter.

I desire to apologize for the length of this historical sketch from which I have cut out many things that would be useful in a history of this kind. From the Old Indian Landing to Lake Ontario, both sides of the creek and bay are filled with historical romance. I gave my original manuscript at the Centennial celebration of Brighton Presbyterian church,

not only as a fitting testimonial to those early pioneers so many of whom are sleeping the last sleep in the Brighton cemetery, but with the hope that it would arouse among the large attendance on this occasion a renewed interest in the great historical surroundings we have in Brighton and Rochester before the city takes to itself all that is left of Brighton, and before all the older generations have passed away, and the interesting facts connected with this section be lost and forgotten.

The early settlers in this section came mostly from New England. Many of us can trace our lineage back to these people. I believe we cannot learn any too much about them and their clean, progressive lives in the face of all kinds of hardships and discouragements. The day is not far off when the site of the City of Tryon will be within the borders of our beautiful city. I would like to see all these historic sites suitably marked for the benefit of future generations so that history will continue to live and not be forgotten and lost.

# The Western Door of the Long House

*By* LOCKWOOD R. DOTY

*Read before The Rochester Historical Society, February 13, 1922*

I have ventured to dignify what I am to say tonight with a title, "The Western Door of the Long House," and I will remind you that there was a time when the land known to us affectionately as the country of the Genesee was the home of the Indian and within the domain of that remarkable structure conceived by savage wisdom, known as the League of the Iroquois.

The story of the aboriginal life of this region is an old one, found in dust-covered books in the library of every historical society and long buried in tons of archives; it has earned the reverence due to great antiquity and has been put in the exclusive keeping of learned historians, who now discuss only such features of it as are suggested by occasional archaeological developments and discoveries. But I must intrude into this seclusion to justify the title of my address, and make a very brief allusion to this long neglected period of our history.

We are not much concerned for the moment with the question as to when the Five Nations of Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas and Senecas became established as the Iroquois Confederacy: it is enough to say that it was centuries ago. Born of the need of unity to secure and preserve peace; to maintain a ruthless sovereignty, and to carry on such aggressive enterprises as were bound to engage its members, even if not within the ordained functions of the League, the perfection of its framework cannot fail to challenge our respect even in this age of civic and social refinements. In its largest conception it was primarily a league of peace, and a fabric was designed that would provide an appropriate, intelligent and enduring government of the very simplest form.

Among a people whose very nature and environment laid them so little under the restraint of social, political and

religious limitations we cannot expect to find their lawmakers devising a complicated or intricate system, or one which would not at some point command their loyalty and willing adherence by an appeal to an instinctive sentiment of brotherhood. So we discover at the very foundation of the plan an arrangement of tribes built upon a spirit of family interest. There were eight tribes, each one of which was divided into five parts and one of the parts was attached to each nation. To get the full significance of this feature of Iroquois life it must be borne in mind that this family relation between members of the same tribe was not merely a fanciful one, but each member regarded every other member of his own tribe as in very good truth his brother or sister. Each tribe in the nation constituted a group apart from the rest bound firmly together by the ties of kinship; this was extended throughout every other nation and each family was identified with two tribes—the tribe of the father and the tribe of the mother,—so that there existed in the league an all-embracing interest, which had the result of preserving within itself an unconquerable spirit of loyalty and accord.

The fifty sachems constituting the League council were assigned to the five nations in varying numbers and distributed among the eight tribes of Bear, Wolf, Turtle, Beaver, Deer, Snipe, Heron and Hawk. The sachems were selected by the council of the tribe from a member of the same tribe, usually from the family of the deceased, excluding, by the law which traced all inheritance through the female line, the children of the deceased sachem. The sachem thus selected would in due time, if acceptable, be "raised up" by the national council and invested with his office. In this council was concentrated the judicial, legislative and executive authority of the Iroquois people; it had no fixed or regularly recurring sessions and there was no permanent indicia of government, and it did not attempt to govern with studied regard to the systematic enforcement of a prescribed code of laws; it was responsive to popular feeling and became active as occasion demanded, and having transacted the business that brought it together, it remained closed until some emergency called it again into activity.

The tribal counells and counells of the nations and the individual authority and importance of the sachems and chiefs provided for affairs not requiring the attention of the general council of the League. "In this manner," says Morgan, "was constructed the League of the Ho-de-no-sau-nee, in itself an extraordinary specimen of Indian legislation. Simple in its foundation upon the famly relationships, effective in the lasting vigor inherent in the ties of kindred, and perfect in its success in achieving harmonious union of the nations, it forms an enduring monument to that proud and prosperous race who reared under its proteetion a widespread Indian sovereignty."

Ho-de-no-sau-nee—the people of the long house—had reference to the traditional long house of the Iroquois, extending from the Hudson to the Genesee, tenanted by the people of the Five Nations, with partitions marking their national territorial limits and having their own separate fires.

The Genesee country was the Western Door of the Long House and here resided the Senecas, the most warlike of the nations of the Confederacy, to guard it from attack in the most exposed quarter. They were the doorkeepers and we know that they performed their task faithfully, aggressively and with high courage, and according to their primitive ethics.

We are today the keepers of the Western Door of the Long House; not indeed as our Seneca predecessors were, to uphold the authority of the Confederation in their jurisdiction, but as members within the same region of many organizations dedicated to the work of gathering, preserving and disseminating its history, and having a distinct individual duty to contribute to its fulfillment. Are we doing this as we should, and, in particular, are we imparting the knowledge thus gained in the right way?

After much reflection, I have reached the conclusion that the ordinary rural historical society has become a tomb. I think I am entirely within bounds in saying that the activities of such a society consist usually of an annual meeting very slimly attended by about the same group of elderly people

year after year, at which unimportant and uneventful town histories and some long obituaries of deceased members are read, a few dues are paid and the meeting adjourns; now and then a paper is presented regarding some event of genuine interest, but this is consigned at once to the obscurity of the society's archives, and, if its proceedings are published at all, the members in due time receive a copy, which arouses but passing interest in the household, and it soon goes to the limbo of forgotten things. Barring this yearly awakening, the society "toils not, neither does it spin," and rarely is a member busy during these long intervals in historical study, research, or exploration. People have an instinctive respect for historical societies and kindred bodies and their aims and accomplishments, and they value highly their association with these organizations, but this attachment does not reach the point of sustained interest and action.

I want to say at the outset that I am giving this testimony as a perfectly impartial observer, for I belong to a society which has quite as much vitality as can be said to distinguish the ordinary body of its kind, and I believe my characterization is a charitable rather than a harsh one. There is an immense amount of valuable historical matter stowed away in the volumes which have been published yearly by this society since its organization, half a century ago, but it is lost to all save the members. It has a building containing many interesting things, relics of the Indian occupation and of early pioneer days, and articles showing the gradual development from the beginning in the domestic arts and agriculture, but the place is rarely visited and only to satisfy an indifferent curiosity. My county is rich in historic interest and many places within its borders are associated with important events and with men renowned in the annals of the early life of the county. Here was the great Genesee town known as Seneca Castle, the destination of the Sullivan Expedition; here were the Indian villages of Canawaugus, Big Tree, Beardstown and Squawkie Hill, and here ran important Indian trials. Here were made the treaties of Big Tree and other notable treaties, and here abode some of the most distinguished members of the

Iroquois League. Red Jacket once lived within its confines and many times his stirring eloquence moved the councils of the Senecas assembled here. The White Woman resided for a time in the town of Leicester, and there is still shown near the place where her log hut stood an apple tree that is an offshoot of one she planted. There were Little Beard, who gave the name to Beardstown, a noted Seneca warrior and councilor, and who after the Revolution was a friend to the pioneers and much esteemed for his good faith; Tall Chief, deriving his name from his great height and majestic presence, an able warrior, possessing the high regard of the whites and commanding great influence among his people. It is said of him that on one occasion he dined with President Washington and was the recipient of the President's interest and attention; Big Tree, after whom the village of Big Tree was named, a man of great importance in the councils of the Senecas and one of the few friends of the Americans among that nation in the War of the Revolution; Black Chief, John Montour and other men of lesser note, and both the great Cornplanter and his half-brother, Handsome Lake, the Peace Prophet, were born at Canawaugus, and Horatio Jones and Moses Van Campen lived for many years in the county. A vestige may still be found along an abandoned highway near the old village of Beardstown of the mound under which the tortured bodies of Boyd and Parker rested until their bones were removed to Mount Hope with elaborate and solemn ceremonies, in which the Governor of the State was called from Albany to participate, but this is being fast washed away, and soon will disappear this evidence of one of the tragedies of the Revolution. Many places, too, in the county closely associated with men and events in the early occupation and settlement of Western New York are important enough to be noted.

It is, I confess, with no particular emotion of pride in the zeal of my home society that I am forced to take note of the superior enterprise, if not the altruism, of a prosperous tire concern which unfolds at the border of the towns in my county the history of the region in a manner that he who—not runs—but speeds, may read. With the exception of a

monument erected at the scene of the ambush of the Boyd and Parker scouting party in Groveland, not a single tablet or marker that I recall has been placed in the county of Livingston to signalize notable places and occasions in early town and county history.

I have talked before a men's club in a town rich in its connection with important scenes during the Indian occupation and recounted incidents of those days, easily found in local histories, to discover that I had taken them—old and young alike—over a trail unknown and unsuspected. I have related Seneca Indian history at Grange meetings, in schools and to Boy Scouts. Invariably the most absorbed attention is paid, and the subject to these audiences is virtually new, picturesque and profoundly interesting. To transform the Indian of their imagination, a creation of romance and fable, into a being of flesh and blood, a Seneca brave roaming over our now fertile meadows and hillsides, is not accomplished without somewhat of a shock to the credulity of the hearer and through a very revealing experience, but he is eager to know everything about the subject, about the Iroquois Confederacy, the Senecas, their government, their councils, the sachems, the chiefs, the warriors, the intimate things about their social life, their religious observances, their sports, about wampum and how it conveyed a message or recorded an event and how it was interpreted, and, indeed, the whole history of these people, hitherto withheld from him. I have mentioned my own society merely to describe a typical one and refer to conditions existing in my own neighborhood as illustrative of those obtaining elsewhere.

We have at Albany a State museum, a State library, a State historian and a State archaeologist, and these are all attached to the Education department of the State. Very many books have been printed as public documents bearing upon State history, and bulletins are issued from the State museum setting forth valuable archaeological facts; through the established channels of distribution they find their way into public library storerooms, occasionally into historical societies on special request, and into the hands of collectors

and students of history, but never into schools. The information contained in these publications should be readily available to the reading public; they are worth having and most of them merit some study; the State has been at great expense to produce them and it would seem that the only completely satisfactory return would be the advantage to the scholar—I mean the every-day one—and the general reader by a circulation widespread enough to reach them.

An instance of what I am mentioning may be found in the recent and very valuable contribution to the history of the Genesee Country: "Anthology and Bibliography of Niagara Falls," prepared by the late Charles M. Dow, former President and Commissioner of the State Reservation at Niagara, and late President of the Chautauqua County Historical Society, and published by the State; also the comprehensive report of the Trustees of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society made to the State Legislature. Neither of these works is easily obtained, and, although they are State publications, the general public knows nothing of them and will never see them.

The State museum is a repository of priceless things giving living, breathing evidence of a past that we have come to regard as almost mythical; the State library contains documents, records and treaties, a description of which would arrest the attention and interest and increase the knowledge of persons of every age and condition in life. The State Archaeologist, commissioned by lineage as well as by his splendid equipment to a most important work, and the State Historian, possessed of a limitless store of information, could by occasional visitations to communities contribute tremendously to a general enlightenment upon the subjects with which they are concerned.

I have tried to find in the textbooks in use in a prominent public school some account, for example, of the Iroquois Confederation; the Seneca occupation of Western New York; important treaties and their occasion and history; the part of the Genesee Country in the War of the Revolution and the War of 1812, to say nothing of later conflicts; of the men of

distinction who had a part in these transactions, and other events and facts which are notable in local history and in general history, as well. I discovered in the school library a text-book of nearly 500 pages called a school history of the United States, of which four pages are devoted to the subject of the Indians and the following is the substance of it, literally quoted: "The great majority of the Indians lived in wigwams or movable tents which were adorned with human scalps or trophies of the chase. There were exceptions to this rule. The Indians of New York, the Pueblos of the Southwest, the Aztecs of Mexico and the Incas of South America had substantial houses and were less nomadic in their habits than most of the tribes. The Indians have shown little capacity for civilization. Some tribes, as the Algonquins, the Iroquois and the Aztecs, were advanced above the barbarous stage. The Indian is not at ease in the center of civilization. He pines for his forest home."

There is no place in the curriculum of the schools of the State for the study of aboriginal or pioneer history; none of the important State publications reach them; the discoveries of its archaeologists and the narratives of its historians are sealed volumes to the pupil, and the great museums of the State, with all their treasures and wonders, uttering history with an honest voice, are closed to him. The generation now at school knows literally nothing of local history and is receiving no instruction and no information on the subject. Nothing can exceed the intensity of interest that a body of school children display when you show them a tomahawk, a pair of Indian moccasins, pestle and mortar, or an arrowhead, and explain their uses and how they are made, and accompany this with a description of Indian life; they are thrilled when you picture the woods again peopled with Senecas, the warrior skulking on the trail, the sachems and chiefs in council, the squaws at their tasks, and the whole tribe in their dances, festivals and merrymakings, and listen open-mouthed, wondering, at your account of this dead and gone phase of life in the Genesee country. It all appeals not alone to the child but to

the adult quite as much, and you marvel how it comes that he knows so little of this chapter of history.

How then is this knowledge to be imparted if it cannot be gained from the State, from the historical societies or in the schools? Through the Genesee Country Historical Federation, I answer, with all the confidence in the world. We will unlock the museums, bring history from its secret places and put it into the schools, and give it to all; moreover, we will try to have universally accepted the idea that the real function of the State and its historical and literary and archaeological and other agencies and of historical societies of whatsoever character, is not to collect and hoard but above all to scatter broadcast all the knowledge that they have and use every means at their command to see that it reaches the people.

The Genesee Country Historical Federation had its beginning as an "Adventure in friendship," and was completely successful. It involved nothing less than association of the historical and kindred societies in all that immense territory in the State lying west of Seneca Lake. There are eleven historical societies and six chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution in the organization, and I have had very firm assurances that in the five counties of Allegany, Orleans, Schuyler, Steuben and Yates societies will be formed for the purpose of becoming a part of it. The Federation is no longer an amiable enterprise; it has passed out of the stage of adventure, and has become a solemn compact for service. It is, as I have solemnly asserted, the keeper of the Western Door of the Long House,—the Long House being the State—the constituent bodies the tribes and clans, the councilors, the sachems and chiefs, and, as the Senecas faithfully guarded the western portal of the League so shall we diligently perform our duty, and become a compelling force in establishing a cohesive, vigorous and effective organization: rescuing these bodies from lassitude and indifference, inspiring them with the will to carry out the work for which they were created, and stimulating the activity of every member of every associated body in the task of industriously collecting and

preserving authentic history and disseminating it among the people, so that it may come to the knowledge of everyone who will receive it.

It is a privilege to be permitted to present, although very imperfectly, the case of the Genesee Country Historical Federation in this presence, and to bespeak for it your most earnest individual support and cooperation, and that of the bodies that you represent. As members of these societies a positive patriotic obligation is laid upon us to aid to the best of our ability in making them promote the greatest general good.

Infinite possibilities for great usefulness and the advancement of learning are opened up to our Federation and its success will be limited only by the lack of individual interest and impulse. But we must have a well defined plan of action, and I have attempted to set down in concrete form a few of the things we will try to accomplish and how we shall set about it:

We will secure the formation of societies in those counties which now have none, and get them into active operation.

We will arouse into action existing societies that have become dormant. We will bring about the publication annually by each society of its proceedings for the year and the interchange among all the societies and the Federation of these publications. We will endeavor to have a town historian carefully chosen in each town by the supervisor of the town, who shall also, if practicable, be the village historian, and have such historian appointed by the historical society of the county as the society's town committeeman; so that there will be in each county society a body of town committeemen representing every town and village in the county, having an official standing as historians. To these committeemen, or historians, will be assigned the work of collecting current town history, through newspaper clippings preserved in scrapbooks, and otherwise, containing war service records, biographies, etc., and assisting in all the activities which shall engage the attention of their societies and the Federation, making full report at the end of the year to the local society and filing the matter collected in its archives. The law

provides that the town may provide for the expenses incurred by the historian, and I have no doubt that town boards without exception will be eager to facilitate this work by such modest appropriations as are found necessary. The value to our whole project of an interested, painstaking and intelligent town historian cannot be exaggerated.

We will arrange for a systematic presentation of historical subjects of local interest—by which I mean town, county, Genesee country and state interest—to schools, Granges, Boy Scouts, Camp-Fire Girls and other groups and at occasional public meetings, through the town historians and other speakers, and encourage the study and discussion of these subjects.

We will endeavor to have all the pupils in the public schools visit at least once the city museums and other accessible collections, under the supervision of a person qualified to explain the exhibition in an instructive and attractive way.

We will have these young people visit local points of historical interest, follow Indian trails and dig into mounds, in company with a person who can tell all about it, and make such an occasion one of value to the child in giving him a realistic picture of life in by-gone days, and stimulating his interest in historical study.

We will locate places identified with historical events of importance enough to be noted and arrange for the erection of suitable tablets upon the sites.

We will arrange for the preparation of biographies of important personages and the history of important events, in the Genesee country.

We will procure for the societies and the Federation the State publications and bulletins of interest and the publications of other county historical societies and kindred bodies within the State.

We will seek to effect the establishment of a chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution in every county of the Genesee country. I desire here to make it very clear that my comments upon the indifference that characterizes some

historical societies are not intended to apply to the various chapters of the Daughters of the Ameriean Revolution, which are uniformly vigorous, enthusiastic and carrying out loyally the objects of their organization.

We will provide a voluntary corps of speakers from the Daughters of the Ameriean Revolution, the county soeieties and other assoeiated bodies and the Federation, who shall be available for service on demand, and we will have a working agreement with the Edueation Department for the oceasional appearance of State Arehaeologist Arthur C. Parker and State Historian James Sullivan and others.

We shall suggest that meetings of the federated societies be held frequently enough to maintain an unrelaxing, aggressive determination to earry out the work assigned to them.

Through the kindness of the eity government of Rochester we are permitted to make use of the Museum building at Exposition park for our meetings and to deposit here our arehives. We are invited to make this building the head-quarters and the home of the Genesee County Historical Federation. Let every associated society and every individual possessing any article appertaining to the history of the Genesee country place it in the splendid collections of The Rochester Historical Society or The Buffalo Historical Society, where it will be properly labeled, displayed and preserved, and where many persons seeing it may be interested and instructed, instead of keeping it hidden in homes and elsewhere. It is safe to say that there is not a single member in the many organizations in our Federation who has not something that he can contribute to enrich these collections, and we entreat him to do it in aid of the work we have set out to do and as his part in some degree towards it. Where societies are supporting locael museums available to the public such as The Ontario County Historieal Society at Canandaigua, The Holland Purchase Historical Society at Batavia, or The Livingston County Historieal Society at Geneseo, can hardly expect this suggestion to be literally heeded.

The Federation should have a general council containing a representative of every associated body and this council should select an Executive Committee to constitute its real working force, and inaugurate and sustain all its activities with ample power.

Our programme is an ambitious one, and I have described but a part of the work to be done. It is highly fitting that it should be ambitious, for we have set ourselves to the task of congregating the learned societies of an empire—a country with an area of eleven thousand square miles, of more than a million and a half in population, composed of fifteen counties, two hundred and eighty-one towns, one hundred and thirty-four incorporated villages and fourteen cities—seeking to animate them with a purpose to perform the great service to the community now within their power. The opportunity is great and our individual responsibility is just as great. Don't let us put it aside, but accept it in an enduring spirit of interest, enthusiasm and earnest cooperation; let us pledge ourselves to sustain it and work for it and stand guard over it, that it may become a great and permanent institution for good; then and only then can it be said that we have faithfully and honorably kept our trust as the Keepers of the Western Door of the Long House.

# Rochester in Literature

By ROSSITER JOHNSON, LL. D.

*Read before The Rochester Historical Society, March 13, 1922*

Let us make a nice distinction in terms, and say that we shall first speak about Rochester in literature, and then about literature in Rochester.

Thirty years before we built a log house where the Powers Block now stands and shot a bear in a cornfield, the site of Rochester made its appearance in literature. Soon after the war between France and England for possession of this continent had ended in favor of the British, in 1763, an eminent French engineer, Pouchot, wrote his "Memoirs of the Late War in North America," and these appeared in print in 1780. Dr. Franklin B. Hough published an excellent translation of the work.

Pouehot, who commanded a regiment in the French army, was sent with his troops to Niagara, to strengthen the defences there. They went partly by water in Lake Ontario, and partly by land. Then, and on his return, Puchot appears to have made extensive explorations in the region between Oswego and Seneca Lake on the east and the Niagara frontier on the west. He was a minute observer and a careful chronicler. He discovered and recorded the spot on the New York and Pennsylvania boundary where three streams have their head—one reaching Ontario through the Genesee, one reaching the Ohio River through the Allegany, and one flowing into the Susquehanna and thence reaching Chesapeake Bay.

There he discovered what he calls "a bituminous oil spring of considerable size," and adds "the Indians use the waters to soothe all kinds of pain." This appears to have been the first discovery of petroleum in America, though it was known to the ancient Greeks and Romans. Nearly a century elapsed before Americans developed a commercial use for that oil. And civilized and uncivilized peoples appear to be alike in hoping to find medicinal qualities in every newly discovered substance. When I was a boy I saw a

neighbor, who was severely afflicted with asthma, breathing air that was passed through kerosene.

Pouchot calls the Genesee "the Casconchiagon, or Little Senecas River." Coasting eastward from the mouth of the Niagara, he writes: "A little before coming to Fort des Sables, we find the mouth of the Casconchiagon, which forms a bay of sufficient size and depth, but there is a bad bar at its entrance. This river has a much longer course into the interior than any other on this coast. It has three falls, with banks almost as fine as those of Niagara." He then explains that, to explore this river, they enter the Baye des Sables, which is Irondequoit Bay, and then make a portage, and says: "At present the navigation is made only in bark canoes. The river traverses the whole country of the Five Nations. The navigation would be much more considerable if these countries should come to be inhabited by Europeans. The whole country along these rivers is beautiful and fertile." He made a map of the region, and a picture of the Lower Falls.

In 1834—the year in which Rochester was incorporated as a city—Nathaniel Hawthorne visited Niagara, and on his way tarried for a while in Rochester. The account of his stay here is published in one of his posthumous volumes. Let me read to you a part of it:

"The Genesee has contributed so bountifully to their canals and mill-dams that it approaches the precipice with diminished pomp and rushes over it in foamy streams of various width, leaving a broad face of the rock insulated and unwashed between the two main branches of the falling river. Still, it was an impressive sight—to one who had not seen Niagara. I confess that my chief interest arose from a legend connected with these falls, which will become poetical in the lapse of years, and was already so to me as I pictured the catastrophe out of dusk and solitude. It was from a platform raised over the naked island of the cliff, in the middle of the cataract, that Sam Patch took his last leap, and alighted in the other world. Strange as it may appear—that any uncertainty should rest upon his fate, which was consummated in the sight of thousands—many will tell you that the illustrious Patch concealed himself in a cave under the falls

and has continued to enjoy posthumous renown without foregoing the comforts of this present life. But the poor fellow prized the shout of the multitude too much not to have claimed it at the instant, had he survived. He will not be seen again, unless his ghost, in such a twilight as when I was there, should emerge from the foam and vanish among the shadows that fall from cliff to cliff.

"How stern a moral may be drawn from the story of poor Sam Patch! Why do we call him a madman or a fool when he has left his memory around the falls of the Genesee more permanently than if the letters of his name had been hewn into the forehead of the precipice? Was the leaper of cataracts more mad or foolish than other men who throw away life, or misspend it in pursuit of empty fame, and seldom so triumphantly as he? That which he won is as invaluable as any except the unsought glory.

"Thus musing wise in theory, but practically as great a fool as Sam, I lifted my eyes and beheld the spires, warehouses and dwellings of Rochester, half a mile distant on both sides of the river, indistinctly cheerful with the twinkling of many lights amid the fall of the evening.

"The town had sprung up like a mushroom, but no presage of decay could be drawn from its hasty growth. Its edifices are of dusky brick and of stone that will not be grayer in a hundred years than now. Its churches are Gothic. It is impossible to look at its worn pavements and conceive how lately the forest leaves have been swept away. The most ancient town in Massachusetts appears quite like an affair of yesterday, compared with Rochester. Its attributes of youth are the activity and eager life with which it is redundant. The whole street—sidewalks and centre—was crowded with pedestrians, horsemen, stage-coaches, gigs, light wagons, and heavy ox-teams, all hurrying, trotting, rattling and rumbling, in a throng that passed continually but never passed away. Here, a country wife was selecting a churn from several gayly painted ones on the sunny sidewalk: there, a farmer was bartering his produce: and in two or three places a crowd of people were showering bids on a vociferous auctioneer. I saw a

great wagon and an ox-chain knocked off to a very pretty woman. Numerous were the lottery offices—those true temples of Mammon—where red and yellow bills offered splendid fortunes to the world at large, and banners of painted cloth gave notice that ‘the lottery draws next Wednesday’. At the ringing of a bell, judges, jurymen, lawyers and clients elbowed each other to the courthouse, to busy themselves with cases that would doubtless illustrate the state of society, had I the means of reporting them. The number of public houses benefited the flow of temporary population. Some were farmers’ taverns, cheap, homely and comfortable; others were magnificent hotels, with negro waiters, gentlemanly landlords in black broadcloth, and foppish barkeepers in Broadway coats, with chased gold watches in their waistcoat pockets. I caught one of these fellows quizzing me through an eye-glass. The porters were lumbering up the steps with baggage from the packet boats, while waiters plied the brush on dusty travelers, who meanwhile glanced over the innumerable advertisements in the daily papers. In short, everybody seemed to be there, and all had something to do, and were doing it with all their might, except a party of drunken recruits for western military posts. I noticed one other idle man. He carried a rifle on his shoulder and a powder-horn across his breast, and appeared to stare about him with confused wonder, as if, while he was listening to the wind among the forest boughs, the hum and bustle of an instantaneous city had surrounded him.”

Another famous author who has paid his respects very handsomely to Rochester is William Dean Howells. His first novel was entitled “Their Wedding Journey,” in which the bridal couple travel leisurely from Boston to Niagara. It undoubtedly records a trip made by the author and his wife—not exactly a wedding journey for them, since they had been married in Italy a few years before, but just as good—some, I fancy, would say better. She was a sister of Larkin G. Mead, the sculptor. They made a stop in Rochester, and that chapter bears title “The Enchanted City.” He begins with a passage—often quoted—in which he satirizes the universal

hotel clerk; but after that he is pleasantly in sympathy with Rochester and its enchantments. I will read a few passages:

"How perfectly idyllic!" cried Isabel. "Is this Rochester, New York, or is it some vale of Arcady? Let's go out and see."

They walked out into the moonlit city, up and down streets that seemed very stately and fine, amidst a glitter of shop-window lights; and then, less of their own motion than of mere error, they quitted the business quarter, and found themselves in a quiet avenue of handsome residences—the Beacon Street of Rochester, whatever it was called. They said it was a night and a place for lovers, for none but lovers, for lovers newly plighted; and they made believe to bemoan themselves that, hold each other dear as they would, the exaltation, the thrill, the glory of their younger love was gone. Some of the houses had gardened spaces about them, from which stole, like breaths of sweetest and saddest regret, the perfume of midsummer flowers—the despair of the rose for the bud. As they passed a certain house, a song fluttered out of the open window and ceased, the piano warbled at the final rush of fingers over its chords, and they saw her with her fingers resting lightly on the keys, and her graceful head lifted to look into his; they saw him with his arm yet stretched across to the leaves of music he had been turning, and his face lowered to meet her gaze.

"Ah, Basil, I wish it was we, there!"

"And if they knew that we, on our wedding journey stood outside, would not they wish it was they, here?"

"I suppose so, dearest, and yet, once-upon-a-time was sweet. Pass on; and let us see what charm we shall find next in this enchanted city."

"Yes, it is an enchanted city to us," mused Basil, aloud, as they wandered on, "and all strange cities are unencharmed. What is Rochester to the Rochesterese? A place of a hundred thousand people, as we read in our guide, an immense flour interest, a great railroad entrepot, an unrivaled nursery trade, a university, two commercial colleges, three collegiate institutes, eight or ten newspapers, and a free library. I dare

say any respectable resident would laugh at us sentimentalizing over his city. But Rochester is for us, who don't know it at all, a city of any time or country, moonlight, filled with lovers hovering over piano-fortes, of a palatial hotel with pastoral waiters and porters—a city of handsome streets wrapt in beautiful quiet and dreaming of the golden age. The only definite association with it in our minds is the tragically romantic thought that here Sam Patch met his fate ”

“And who in the world was Sam Patch?”

“Isabel, your ignorance of all that an American woman should be proud of distresses me. Have you really, then, never heard of the man who invented the saying, ‘Some things can be done as well as others,’ and proved it by jumping over Niagara Falls twice? Spurred on by this belief, he attempted the leap of the Genesee Falls. The leap was easy enough, but the coming up again was another matter. He failed in that. It was the one thing that could not be done as well as others.”

“Dreadful!” said Isabel, with the cheerfulest satisfaction. “But what has all that to do with Rochester?”

“Now, my dear! You don’t mean to say you didn’t know that the Genesee Falls were at Rochester? Upon my word, I’m ashamed. Why, we’re within ten minutes’ walk of them now.”

“Then walk to them at once!” cried Isabel, wholly unabashed, and in fact unable to see what he had to be ashamed of.

They found, by dint of much asking, a street winding up the hillside to the left, and leading to the German Bierhaus that gives access to the best view of the cataract.

The Americans have characteristically bordered the river with manufactures, making every drop work its passage to the brink; while the Germans have as characteristically made use of the beauty left over, and have built a Bierhaus where they may regale both soul and sense in the presence of the cataract. Our travelers might, in another mood and place, have thought it droll to arrive at that sublime spectacle through a Bierhaus, but in this enchanted city it seemed to have a peculiar fitness. Through garden-ground they were

led by the little maid, their guide, to a small pavilion that stood on the edge of the precipitous shore and commanded a perfect view of the falls. As they entered this pavilion, a youth and maiden, clearly lovers, passed out, and they were left alone with that sublime presence. Something of definiteness was to be desired in the speetae, but there was ample compensation in the mystery with which the broad effulgence and the dense unluminous shadows of the moonshine invested it. The light touched all the tops of the rapids, that seemed to writhe away from the brink of the cataract, and then desperately breaking and perishing to fall, the white disembodied ghosts of rapids, down to the bottom of the vast and deep ravine through which the river rushed away. Now the waters seemed to mass themselves a hundred feet high in a wall of snowy compactness, now to disperse into their multitudinous partieles and hang like some vaporous cloud from the cliff. Every moment renewed the vision of beauty in some rare and fantastic shape; and its loveliness isolated it, in spite of the great town on the other shore, the station with its bridge and its trains, the mills that supplied their feeble little needs from the cataract's strength.

At last Basil pointed out the table-rock in the middle of the fall, from which Sam Patch had made his fatal leap; but Isabel refused to admit that tragical figure to the honors of her emotions. "I don't care for him!" she said fiercely. "Patch! What a name to be linked in our thoughts with this superb cataract."

"Well, Isabel, I think you are very unjust. It's as good a name as Leander, to my thinking, and it was immortalized in support of a great idea—the feasibility of all things; while Leander's has come down to us as that of the weak vietim of a passion. We shall never have a poetry of our own till we get over this absurd reluctance from facts, till we make the ideal embrace and include the real, till we consent to face the music in our simple common names, and put Smith into a lyric and Jones into a tragedy."

When that superb book entitled "Picturesque Ameriea" appeared, in the 1870's, it presented a chapter devoted to the

Genesee, from its source to its mouth. The text of that chapter is so poorly and inaccurately written that it is not worth quoting, but the illustrations, made by real artists, are superb.

Here we must end our account of Rochester in Literature, and give our attention to Literature in Rochester.

When the University of Rochester was founded, among those who came hither from Hamilton (now Colgate University) was Asahel C. Kendrick, to occupy the chair of Greek. Nearly forty classes were graduated under his teaching; and, without detracting in the least from the merits of any others, it may be said that he was probably the most beloved man in that very able faculty. He wrote text-books for the study of Greek, and Scripture commentaries, that on the Epistle to the Hebrews being the most notable, and was a member of the American committee that revised the New Testament. He wrote also the biography of the third Mrs. Judson, wife of the famous missionary in Burmah—a book that was widely circulated through several editions. He appeared to be familiar with everything good, whether ancient or modern, in the poetry of our language; and in his class-room the students heard much of it from his mellow and carefully trained voice. Most appropriately, he was the editor of one of our best anthologies—the three volumes of “Our Poetical Favorites.” As might be expected, Dr. Kendrick was himself a writer, though only to a small extent, of musical and pleasing verse. Let me read a passage from his longest poem, entitled “Dreams”:

The Poet dreams; and, robed in magic light,  
Springs a new world upon our ravished sight.  
The Painter dreams; and lo! in rapture wild  
Stand in mid heaven the Virgin and her child.  
The maiden dreams; and deep within her breast  
She hides the thought that broke her spirit's rest,  
And mingled with its pure unsullied beam  
The troubled joy of Love's delicious dream.  
The student dreams; ambition's splendid prize  
Half brightened, half eclipsed by two black eyes.  
His dream of fame lights up the midnight oil;  
His dream of love plays, song-like, o'er his toil.  
Nor art and song alone own Fancy's sway;  
Full oft has Science caught her heavenliest ray

From the bright orb whose light prophetic streams  
In flooding radiance o'er the realm of dreams.  
Follow the adventurous host of souls sublime  
Down the long ages of descending time—  
Hierophants of truth, a sacred band,  
Who passed her flaming torch from hand to hand,  
Lighting our wanderings to the Promised Land;  
And mark how Truth on yearning fancy broke,  
Long ere she bowed to Reason's sterner stroke.  
Phythagoras dreamed, and lo! in choir sublime,  
The circling spheres pealed heaven's immortal chime,  
And Earth, unfixed, joining her sister spheres,  
Preludes the science of a thousand years.  
And Plato dreamed, and to his eyes unsealed  
The soul's immortal life stood forth revealed;  
He saw, unharmed by Death's dissolving hour,  
The spirit then assert its Godlike power,  
And burst away, through kindred realms to range,  
Beyond the reach of death, decay, or change.  
And Kepler dreamed, long had the planets wheeled  
In their high orbs, their courses unrevealed,  
One dream, one glance, one far deep-piercing view  
Imagination caught the mighty clue,  
And Reason, slowly following, traced it through.

I wish the Doctor himself could have been here to read this to you. One of his students, long out of college, wrote in a reminiscent letter: "I never could look at a page of Greek without thinking of the tangle of dry twigs on a winter tree; and I never could hear Dr. Kendrick read it without being reminded how that tree would blossom in the spring."

Dr. Kendrick had two daughters that contributed to Rochester's literature. One, Helen, wrote three volumes of stories for the young, a novel that was so novel that it had a book-agent for its hero, and a philosophical and historical treatise entitled "*Woman and the Republic*," which was highly praised by every one of seventy reviewers to whom copies were sent. Take a short quotation from a single one. The Boston Courier said: "At last a woman has written a book that will be adjudged a valuable addition to woman literature, chiefly from the fact that it has been written obviously by one who has risen above all petty quarrel and controversy to an apprehension of the real need of the Republic, so far as woman is concerned. \* \* \* Evidently a strong, serious brain has conceived its every chapter."

She also produced—by dedicating to it all her spare time for seven years—a large volume entitled “Our Familiar Songs, and Those Who Made Them,” which has gone through many editions. I know of none that brings music and literature so close together.

The other daughter, Florene, collaborated with her father in writing President Anderson’s biography, and afterward wrote his.

For five years, in the 1860’s Robert Carter was chief editor of the Rochester Democrat. He was a native of Albany, and became a clerk in the postoffice at Cambridge, Mass., and an intimate friend of James Russell Lowell, with whom he established the Pioneer Magazine. This was a brilliant affair as long as it lived, for among its contributors were Nathaniel Hawthorne, Edgar A. Poe, Elizabeth Barrett (Browning), and John Neal. But the publisher failed, and the magazine attained only three numbers. They are now held at a high price as scarce Americana.

William S. King, Postmaster of the U. S. House of Representatives, had recently bought the Democrat, and on the advice of Senator Henry Wilson (afterward Vice-President) he invited Mr. Carter to assume the editorship. One hot evening in July Carter appeared in the office, took off his coat, and began work at once. He used to sit up till the night despatches were all in—midnight or later—in order that whatever editorial comment or explanation they required might appear in the same issue with them, instead of twenty-four hours later, as had been the custom with inland papers.

I had the good fortune to be his assistant, and I am not sure whether I acquired most education from his daily talks or from High School and College combined. His mind appeared to be largely occupied with an extensive set of pigeon-holes filled with classified facts. One day President Anderson came into the office and said: “Mr. Carter, I have been trying in vain to learn something about that eccentric character, Count Adam Gurowski, and it has occurred to me that perhaps you can tell me.” “Oh, yes,” said Carter, “I roomed with him six months in Washington.” When Gurowski died, Carter contributed to the Atlantic Monthly an

interesting sketch of the man and his career. He had done much miscellaneous literary work, including a remarkable story, entitled "The Great Tower of Tarudant," in the old Broadway Magazine. He edited Kossuth's speeches in this country, and soon after that was secretary of the convention that organized the Republican party in Massachusetts. He had been the secretary of Prescott, the historian; and when Robert A. Wilson published his work on Mexico, in which he challenged much that Prescott had written on the authority of Spanish chroniclers, Carter wrote a long review of his book for the *North American*, refuting Wilson.

Carter published only one volume of his own original work, "A Summer Cruise on the Coast of New England," which had a good circulation and is still cherished by certain connoisseurs.

George H. Ellwanger came so near being a genius at essay-writing that it would be hard to say he was not. His first book, "The Garden's Story," gave him high literary standing at once. This was followed by "The Story of My House," a small volume entitled "In Silver and Gold," and a large one on the pleasures of the table. His story of "The Silver Fox" is as exquisitely beautiful as anything with which it can be compared. It is to be regretted that he did not have all his books issued by one house, in one size; then we could have had them in a uniform set—which now can never be.

George had a brother—William D. Ellwanger—who wrote a few poems, some of which are exceedingly pretty.

Henry Francis Keenan was born and educated in Rochester. He was first on the staff of the Democrat, and then of the Chronicle. Besides an immense amount of journalistic work, he produced half a dozen novels, the most brilliant and successful of which was "The Money-Makers."

In my former address before this society I spoke of Charles Warren Stoddard. I told you he was born here and lived here till his father took the family to California; that Charles became a journalist by profession and incidentally a writer of books; and that he spent some years in Hawaii, Tahiti and other islands of the Pacific. I think his prose volume of "South Sea Idyls" remains the most picturesque

and poetical book that deals with that island world. I cherish the copy that he inscribed to me "in memory of our childhood in Frank Street." It is not possible, in an address like this, to quote anything so long as one of those idyls. Instead, let me read two of his poems that were collected and published in a volume after his death. He died in 1909. The first was inspired by a sunset viewed from an island mountain-top:

I thread the path through verdant leas,  
Till, looking downward from the height,  
Lo! dreamy lands by dreamy seas  
Made misty in the mellow light.

And ever-wandering clouds that drape  
With tint of pearl, or stain of blood,  
The nestling isle, the distant cape  
That sinks into yon purple flood.

And overhead the jeweled plain,  
Where shadows deepen as they close—  
But, deepening, neither blot nor stain  
The sweetest blue that heaven knows.

O perfect night—more perfect still  
For being sought in happy mood—  
How many hearts might pulse and thrill  
Within this seeming solitude!

And have the ages wrought so long;  
Must all this beauty go to make  
A thought to perish in a song,  
One picture for one creature's sake?

No! rather think this fair expanse  
May be the margin of that shore  
Swept over with seraphic glance  
By spirits that we know no more.

The other is entitled "Return":

Out of the sunset in a summer land,  
Led by the south wind from a coral strand,  
A prodigal I come at Christmas eve,  
Love in my heart, and heart upon my sleeve.

'Tis here I seek the love of long ago,  
And find it radiant as an afterglow.  
Have I been absent, say—or can it be  
That I have dreamed that life beyond the sea?

I cannot tell you, for so true you seem,  
Which is reality and which is dream.  
But if I dream tonight I pray you then  
"Oh, do not wake me—let me dream again."

Among our Rochester authors are several who have produced important and standard books that are of such a nature that extracts could not be presented in an address like this, but which must not be passed over without appreciative mention.

At the head of such a list should stand the works of Lewis H. Morgan. The original edition of his "League of the Iroquois" was published in Rochester in 1851, and is now accounted very rare. Recently a sumptuous edition, with very beautiful colored illustrations, has been issued by a New York house. Mr. Morgan's other works include "The American Beaver," "Ancient Society," and "Systems of Consanguinity and Affinity of the Human Family." He was the first man to publish a scientific account of an Indian tribe, and he was called "The Father of American Anthropology."

The writings of Dr. Augustus H. Strong, late President of Rochester Theological Seminary, rank high among religious works.

General Elwell S. Otis published one book, "The Indian Question," made possible by his experience at the West, where he was in command, having continued as an officer of the regular army after his service in the civil war.

That reminds us that when the first battle of Bull Run was fought, your Representative in Congress, the Hon. Alfred Ely, and your District Attorney, Calvin Huson, went out to see it and were captured and confined in Libby Prison. Mr. Huson died there, but Mr. Ely lived to be exchanged, and then published the journal that he had kept in the prison.

The Rev. George Dana Boardman, D. D., son of that missionary in Burmah whose widow became the second wife of Adoniram Judson, was for many years a resident of Rochester, being pastor of the Second Baptist Church. He was a popular preacher, rather florid in style, and a much beloved man. From Rochester he went to Philadelphia, where he spent the remainder of his life. He published a considerable number of books, which were essentially essays on religious subjects. Two of them are "Studies in the Mountain Instruction" and "Epiphanies of the Risen Lord."

Your late Representative in Congress, the Hon. J. Breck

Perkins, was a devoted student of French life, and produced scholarly works which take their place among standard histories. His four books are: "France under Richelieu and Mazaran," "France under the Regency," "France under Louis XV," and a biography of Richelieu.

Erasmus Peshine Smith was an authority on international law, and, by official appointment, spent five years in Japan assisting that government in its treaties with other powers. He published a "Manual of Political Economy," which the critics say is unique among books of its kind. Mr. Smith had two other connections with literature. He proposed and introduced the word "telegram," and his granddaughter became the wife of Rudyard Kipling.

Isaac Butts, who founded the Rochester Union in 1852, and for many years edited it with marked ability, wrote a work on "Protection and Free Trade." He died in 1874, and the book was published in New York the next year.

William F. Peck wrote a "History of Rochester," in addition to a great deal of journalistic and miscellaneous literary work.

For many years Frederick Douglass made his home in Rochester. He lived at the head of South avenue, where—some of you will remember—his home was burned. He published here his paper, *The North Star*, the office being, as I remember, a little way east of the front entrance to Reynolds Arcade. The title of the paper was suggestive of one of the anti-slavery songs of those days, wherein the fugitive sings the refrain—

"I kept my eye on the bright north star,  
And thought of liberty."

Mr. Douglass, besides doing much journalistic and miscellaneous literary work, was a powerful platform speaker. His autobiography, a thick volume, interesting and historically valuable, was published in Boston. You all know where his monument stands, near the New York Central Railroad depot. So far as I know, that is our country's only statue of a person of African blood.

In the High School I had as a fellow student Willis S.

Paine, son of Nicholas E. Paine, at that time Rochester's postmaster. He settled in New York city to practice law, and has published well known law books.

The Rev. Thomas Jefferson Conant, Professor in the Theological Seminary, did much Biblical work in the way of translations and commentaries. His wife, Hannah Chaflin, was well learned in Oriental languages, and besides much work in the way of translation and adaptation, she wrote "*The History of the English Bible*," which entailed profound and labored research and was published in 1859—when she was just fifty years of age.

Mrs. Jenny Marsh Parker was a prolific author. Besides her "*History of Rochester*," she wrote a novel, "*The Midnight Cry*," founded on the effect of William Miller's prophecies eighty years ago.

We all must laugh a little now and then, and a literature that includes no humor is in so far imperfect. Rochester has had its wits and humorists; but few of them displayed their peculiar gifts in print. Charles J. Hill, one of Rochester's early millers, had a son, Charles B. Hill, who was known as one of the wits of the town and occasionally ventured into print. About 1860 there was a pretended rivalry between Rochester and Buffalo, kept up for the purpose of inventing jokes at each other's expense. Charlie Hill made his contribution in the form of a long article descriptive of Buffalo, in which you could not discover much that was complimentary to that burg. It was illustrated with startling wood cuts, and the whole was published in the daily Union.

In Public School No. 5 there was a little hump-backed boy, named Marshall P. Wilder, who did not grow up much bodily, but mentally grew up into a very successful humorist. He supported himself handsomely by inventing and dramatically reciting humorous stories. One day I had a talk with him when we were crossing a ferry, in the course of which he said: "You see, my funny little stories seem funnier because I myself am so funny." He appeared to be thankful to his Creator for giving him a humped back to help him through life. After exhibiting successfully in our country, he went to London.

There he fixed up a formidable looking document which nobody could understand, enclosed it in a large envelope, put on a big seal, and addressed it to the Prince of Wales. Then he went to the Prince's club and sent it in to him. Albert Edward looked it over, wondered what it all meant, and said to the attendant, "Show him in." When Wilder appeared before him, Albert Edward said, "Well, what do you want of me?" "I want to tell you a story," said Wilder. "Tell away," said the Prince; and then our little foreshortened townsman told him, not on ebut half a dozen of his best. That was enough to set him up in business on British soil. Wilder published a book entitled "Men I have Smiled With."

If I might digress a little from my exact subject, I should be glad to speak of Arthur D. Walbridge, a most promising musical composer, and lovable man, who died early, probably one of those whom Shelley calls

"The heritors of unfulfilled renown."

He was a son of S. Dewey Walbridge, who for many years kept the Eagle Hotel, where the Powers Block now stands.

There appears never to have been any dearth of poets in Rochester, and many have done very creditable work; but in my opinion the one that leads them all is Joseph O'Connor. He was born at Tribes Hill, in the eastern part of this State, and came with his parents to Rochester when he was about twelve years of age. He was educated in Grammar School No. 2, in the High School where it was first located in Fitzhugh street between the Savings Bank and St. Luke's church—and in the University. He was admitted to the bar, but never practiced; became a journalist, and was employed on papers in New York, in Buffalo, and in Rochester. There is not much opportunity for a journalist to make a popular reputation; but O'Connor was widely known and very highly esteemed in the profession. Charles A. Dana told me that he read every day what O'Connor wrote in the Post Express, and he added, "We will make a place for him here at any time when he will come to us." But he never went; he loved

Rochester too well. When we were in the High School he wrote a long poem on the Deluge. Daniel Holbrook, the Superintendent of Schools, saw it, admired it, and had it published in the Democrat. For our first commencement exercises in Corinthian Hall, at the request of the Principal of the school, Charles R. Pomeroy, O'Connor wrote a drama. It was entitled "The Conspiracy," and was founded on Orsini's attempt to assassinate Napoleon III. It was written in blank verse, and it went off with great applause. Of all who were in the cast, I am the only survivor. Joseph was not always lucky with his manuscripts. When a prize of six hundred dollars was offered for a new national hymn, there were many contestants, and some of the poems were good; but the committee were not willing to award the prize. The manuscripts were put into the hands of Richard Grant White, to make a book, with running commentary. He included O'Connor's and gave it high praise, but expressed regret that it must be anonymous, as the envelope containing the author's name was lost. It should have occurred to Mr. White that by means of a simple advertisement, with three or four lines of the poem for identification, he could easily have found the author. You may read it in the volume of O'Connor's collected poems—which I trust many of you possess—where it bears the title "The Hopes of Man." I cannot say how it would answer for a song; but I think that as a poem it is superior to Key's "Star Spangled Banner," to Smith's "America," and to Mrs. Howe's "Battle-Hymn of the Republic." As I open the volume and look at it once more, the closing stanza seems strikingly appropriate to the present day:

Yes, the spirit of our land,  
    The young giant of the West,  
With the waters in his hand,  
    With the forests for his crest,  
To our hearts' quick, proud pulsations,  
    To our shouts that still increase,  
Shall yet lead on the nations  
    To their brotherhood of peace.  
Thus Columbia, great and strong,  
    Shall forever lead the van,  
As the nations sweep along  
    To fulfill the hopes of man!

He sent a story to the Atlantic Monthly, which the editor accepted—and then lost the manuscript—but paid for it. A remarkable story of his was published in Blackwood's Magazine. I should like to read you one of O'Connor's long poems—especially "The White Rose"—but must give you instead three or four of his lyrics:

### Her Hands

Sometimes I sit and try to trace,  
In memory's records dim and faint,  
The features of my mother's face,  
With the calm look of gentle grace  
That marked our household's quiet saint.

The innocence of her blue eyes,  
The winning smile about her lips,  
Child-simple and yet woman-wise,  
Her shining hair, her modest guise,  
All come in turn; each fades and slips.  
I try to fix them, but in vain;  
They waver, and yet will not fuse,  
Howe'er imagination strain  
To form the face that it would feign—  
Till on a sudden, as I muse,

There comes a thought of her dear hands,  
All wrinkled, tanned, and labor-worn—  
And there the simple woman stands,  
To meet her duty's hard demands,  
Among the children she has borne!  
No work nor written word remains,  
Nor picture worthy to approve;  
But read in knotted joints and veins,  
And tendons strong, and honest stains,  
The tale of service and of love!

O hands of ministry, that wrought  
In constant care, through weal and woe,  
Nor rest by crib or coffin caught,  
This pang is mine—I never thought  
To kiss your fingers long ago!

### Wandering

The water bubbles o'er the gravel,  
It laughs a moment and is gone;  
It would be still if it were stone,  
But ripples know enough to travel.

The misty forms afloat up yonder,  
Like ships whose sails a fair wind fills,  
Might rest forever were they hills,  
But clouds are wise and fain would wander.

The wind it is a merry rover,  
 And bends to kiss the rose's lips;  
 But from embracing arms it slips,  
 For roses elsewhere wait a lover.

The little bird, too, is a roamer  
 That flies and sings with joyous zest;  
 He owns a house? Ah, no; his nest  
 Is but a cottage for the summer!

And over all the Queen of Gypsies,  
 The changeful moon roves through the skies,  
 The dearer to our mortal eyes,  
 For all her phases and eclipses.

The spot we're in belongs to sorrow;  
 Why should we suffer from its stress,  
 When we may search for happiness  
 And hit on Paradise to-morrow?

The moon may know its place? I'll follow.  
 The ripples tell? I'll trace their sound.  
 If wind and cloud be thither bound,  
 I'll watch; and I'll pursue the swallow.

### If the Wind Rise.

An open sea, a gallant breeze  
 That drives our little boat—  
 How fast each wave about us flees,  
 How fast the low clouds float!  
 "We'll never see the morning skies,  
 If the wind rise."  
 "If the wind rise,  
 We'll hear no more of earthly lies."

The moon from time to time breaks out,  
 And silvers all the sea;  
 The billows toss their manes about;  
 The little boat leaps free.  
 "We'll never see our true love's eyes,  
 If the wind rise."  
 "If the wind rise,  
 We'll waste no more our foolish sighs."

She takes a dash of foam before,  
 A dash of spray behind;  
 The wolfish waves about her roar,  
 And gallop with the wind.  
 "We'll see no more the woodland dyes,  
 If the wind rise."  
 "If the wind rise,  
 We'll weep no more man's miseries."

The sky seems bending lower down,  
 And swifter sweeps the gale;  
 Our craft she shakes from keel to crown,  
 And dips her fragile sail.  
 "We may forgive our enemies,  
 If the wind rise."  
 "If the wind rise,  
 We'll sup this night in Paradise."

He had an elder brother, Michael, who gave great promise as a writer, but he enlisted in the 140th Regiment, and died in a field hospital. Eight of his short poems were printed privately after his death, under the title "A Lyrical Octave." I will read two:

#### My Beau

Oh, I am dinned with rolling drums  
 And oft-repeated cheers,  
 And tired with marching 'mid the throng  
 Beside the Volunteers!  
 For all day long my heart and eyes  
 Went with the foremost row,  
 Where, handsomest among them all,  
 I saw my darling Beau.

The tears were on my cheeks unchecked  
 Throughout this woeful day;  
 I did not heed the people's looks,  
 I cared not what they'd say;  
 For why should I disguise my grief.  
 Or strive to hide the woe  
 That burst unbidden at the thought  
 Of parting with my Beau?

You surely must have noticed,  
 As the ranks went marching by,  
 That tall young fellow in the front.  
 With such a bright blue eye.  
 I know a dozen hearts that ached  
 This day to see him go;  
 But I alone among them all  
 Could claim him as a beau.

He was the only beau I had:  
 Of all the lads, but he  
 Seemed ever to have cared to win,  
 Or thought of loving me.  
 But had a thousand sought my hand,  
 Howe'er so rich, I'd throw  
 The greed of gold from out my heart,  
 And give it to my Beau.

You surely must have noticed,  
 Because beneath its shade,  
 To fight for what we all believe  
 Is right, he stands arrayed.  
 Though were he on the other side,  
 The Stars and Bars, I know,  
 Would be as dear as Stripes and Stars,  
 While floating o'er my Beau.

A victory would be death to me,  
 Were he among the slain;  
 I care not who shall win the fight,  
 So he comes back again;  
 Nor to which side the bloody tide  
 Of war shall ebb or flow,  
 If it but brings me home unwrecked  
 That man-of-war, my Beau.

### Reveille

The morning is cheery, my boys, arouse!  
 The dew shines bright on the chestnut boughs,  
 And the sleepy mist on the river lies,  
 Though the east is flushing with crimson dyes.

Awake! awake! awake!  
 O'er field and wood and brake,  
 With glories newly born,  
 Comes on the blushing morn.

Awake! awake!

You have dreamed of your homes and friends all night;  
 You have basked in your sweethearts' smiles so bright;  
 Come, part with them all for a while again,—  
 Be lovers in dreams; when awake, be men.

Turn out! turn out! turn out!  
 You have dreamed full long, I know.  
 Turn out! turn out! turn out!  
 The east is all aglow.  
 Turn out! turn out!

From every valley and hill there come  
 The clamoring voices of fife and drum;  
 And out in the fresh, cool morning air  
 The soldiers are swarming everywhere.

Fall in! fall in! fall in!  
 Every man in his place.  
 Fall in! fall in! fall in!  
 Each with a cheerful face.  
 Fall in! fall in!

Both brothers were members of a unique literary society, restricted to six and called "The Hexagonal." They covered much good writing-paper, under many titles, with various efforts. Probably not much of it would edify you; but as a

classic poet tells us "The deed in the doing it savors of worth," so we might paraphrase, "The scrawl in the scrawling of it furnished much mirth." Sometimes we wrote subjects on cards, shook them up in a hat, put the watch in the center of the table, and had twenty minutes in which to produce poems on the subjects that we drew. I remember no instance in which we failed to do it—admitting that whatever rhymes is a poem. Of all that body of youthful literature, now forever lost, I am happy to say—my memory still holds but a single stanza, the closing one in a piece entitled "Spring":

Now night comes on. Up swims the mellow moon,  
While sunset's purple-banded hosts disband,  
And robed in fallen blossoms gentle June  
On zephyr wings is wafted to our land.

William S. Bishop was a practicing lawyer in Rochester for many years. At one time he was District Attorney, and at other times he represented the city in either house of the Legislature. He lived in Troup street, corner of Eagle street. He had a son, James L. Bishop, who is a lawyer in New York city and is the author of some law books which better judges than I tell me are of high value.

William S. Bishop had also a daughter, Mary, who was educated in the Rochester schools. I remember her as a beautiful girl when she was my fellow student at the High School. She became the wife of Merrill E. Gates, a graduate of Rochester University, who was President successively of Rutgers and Amherst colleges. When she died, a few years ago, he collected her poems—more than a hundred, all short—and they were published by a New York house. I have selected two to read to you. One other, set to music, appears in the Congregational hymnal:

#### Dependence

The sea-swayed mosses clinging to the rock,  
The little pool left by the ebbing sea,  
The dying echo of the thunder's shock,  
The leaflet swinging on its parent tree,  
  
Each by some tie invisible is bound,  
The weaker still depending on the strong;  
The parted waters to the deep profound,  
And faintest echoes to some voice, belong.

So have I felt myself a very part  
 Of elemental worlds I cannot see.  
 A swinging leaf, my pendant, quivering heart  
 Grows on the tree of old Eternity.

A clinging shred, I stay my tide-swept will,  
 And anchor it on ageless rocks of might.  
 A tiny, land-locked pool, I feel the thrill  
 Of wide, unfathomed waters out of sight.

A human fragment, I am not alone  
 In this vast universe, so deep and broad;  
 But I belong to worlds beyond the sun.  
 And I, an atom, still am joined to God.

### Poems

There are possible poems everywhere.  
 They shine in the stars, they float in the breeze,  
 They roll in the rhythmic, empurpled seas,  
 They fly on the wings of the storm-strung air.

They are sphered in the dew, they drop in the rain,  
 They hide in the forest, they run in the stream.  
 They leap out in fire, in icebergs they gleam,  
 They hang on the cliffs, they lie in the plain.

They quiver in aspens, they grow in the grass,  
 They are veiled in the violet and lost in the pool.  
 In grottoes they glimmer, secluded and cool,  
 In wild, weedy waysides their images pass.

At nightfall they whisper, at dawning they sing,  
 At midnight they blazon their words on the sky,  
 At noonday they speak in a voice clear and high.  
 With their sweetness and glory the world-spaces ring.

For manifold Nature has manifold tongues.  
 The snowflake hymns beauty, as well as the star,  
 The cloud, and the sun, and the crystalline spar.  
 All Nature is lyric with poems and songs.

Another poet born here, some of whose work has had a wide circulation, was Mary Riley, born near Brighton First Lock—exactly on which side of the city line does not matter. She began writing at an early age, and has produced two or three small volumes of didactic and contemplative pieces. The most popular are “Tired Mothers” and “Some Time.” She became the wife of Albert Smith, a mining engineer, and lived first in Illinois, afterward in New York city, where she still resides. I will read the poem for which she received the

prize of the Poetry Society five years ago. It is entitled "The Child in Me":

She follows me about my House of Life  
 (This happy little ghost of my dead Youth!)  
 She has no part in Time's relentless strife,  
 She keeps her old simplicity and truth—  
 And laughs at grim Mortality,  
 This deathless Child that stays with me—  
 This happy little ghost of my dead Youth.

My House of Life is weather-stained with years  
 (O, Child in Me, I wonder why you stay.)  
 Its windows are bedimmed with rain of tears,  
 The walls have lost their rose, its thatch is gray.  
 One after one its guests depart,  
 So dull a host is my old heart.  
 (O, Child in Me, I wonder why you stay!)

For jealous Age, whose face I would forget,  
 Pulls the bright flowers you bring me from my hair  
 And powders it with snow; and yet—and yet—  
 I love your dancing feet, and jocund air.  
 I have no taste for caps of lace  
 To tie about my faded face—  
 I love to wear your flowers in my hair!

O Child in Me, leave not my House of Clay  
 Until we pass together through the door,  
 When lights are out, and Life has gone away,  
 And we depart, to come again no more.  
 We Comrades, who have traveled far,  
 Will hail the Twilight and the Star,  
 And smiling, pass together through the Door.

I have spoken of Dr. Kendrick and his varied accomplishments. Early in his connection with the University he prepared a volume of poetical translations, entitled "Echoes; or Leisure Hours with the German Poets," which was printed and published in Rochester. In closing, let me read his rendering of a lyric by Karl Theodore Koerner, "he of the lyre and sword," who at the age of twenty-two fell in battle:

Good night!  
 Let it on the weary light!  
 Now the day in silence closes,  
 Labor's toil-worn frame reposes,  
 Till awakes the morning light.  
 Good night!

Go to rest!  
Weary eyes in sleep be prest.  
Silence on the wide streets falleth,  
Save where lone the watchman calleth.  
Whispers night to each worn breast  
Go to rest!

Sweetly sleep!  
Heavenly dews your senses steep!  
Feels your breast love's bitter pleasures,  
Let the form your bosom treasures  
Brightly imaged round you sweep.  
Sweetly sleep!

So, good night!  
Slumber till the daylight breaketh;  
Slumber till another morrow  
Brings another weight of sorrow.  
Fear ye not—your Father waketh!  
So, good night!

# The Landing Road

*By A. EMERSON BABCOCK*

Note: On Saturday afternoon, June 10th, and again on Saturday, June 17th, 1922, The Rochester Historical Society, under guidance of Mr. A. Emerson Babcock, held field meetings on the site of the lost city of Tryon, at the old Indian Landing on Irondequoit Creek.

Our most romantic history centers about Irondequoit Bay and its valley. In springtime this region reveals exquisite beauty. "Sweet fields beyond the swelling flood stand dressed in living green." Here is spread a panorama of loveliness unsurpassed, with lush meadows, winding creek, dome-shaped emerald hills, trees and rich garden lands. The Indians compared this valley to their Happy Hunting Grounds.

Since early boyhood Mr. Babcock has been familiar with this terrain. From old settlers he has heard wonder-tales of the Indian Landing, the lost city of Tryon, the Ox Bow, the Shipyard, and Smugglers Cove. He pointed out these sites to a large group at these field meetings. When all were assembled where Tryon City once stood, Mr. Babcock delivered the following address:

At the first Town Meeting of the Town of Northfield, which was composed of the present towns of Brighton, Pittsford, Perinton, Irondequoit, Penfield, Webster and what the City of Rochester has taken from both Brighton and Irondequoit, Capt. Silas Nye was elected Supervisor, Phineas Bates, Town Clerk, and Orringh Stone, Commissioner of Highways. This Town Meeting was held in the present town of Pittsford in 1796.

This road taking its name from the old Landing extends now from the intersection of Elmwood and East Avenue north to the end of the road on this high ground. It was the first road to be surveyed and laid out in this section, which was done doubtless by Orringh Stone, Commissioner of Highways, between the years 1796 and 1800, and was the continuation of the road from Canandaigua, following its present lines straight through to the Indian Landing on what was known in early history as Irondequoit River and later Irondequoit Creek. The terminus of this road at the Landing marked the end of civilization in this section. From this point through to the Niagara River was one great wilderness.

There is no section that I can recall that has more in-

teresting historical sites along its less than two miles of length than the Landing Road. Camping places of the Senecas, of Butler's army, of Denonville's troops. The pioneer home of Oliver Culver, who set out the poplar trees in front of this place. A permanent Indian village on the Kelly farm, seen and visited in 1826 by John De Bay and Samuel Willett, residents of Rochester and who were accompanied by T. J. Jeffords, a lad of thirteen then, as assistant. Purchased a quantity of goods and set out to visit the Indian towns of Western New York, to trade with the Indians. The second town they visited was the town on the Kelly farm. Squire Kelly, a very fluent talker, I knew well and I recall the many times he entertained me with his stories of the early Indians, of the town on his place and of the find of bushels of musket balls and other war material around the old spring when the plow first entered its soil, which showed the presence at some time of an army. This army was Butler's without any question and Squire Kelly told me so many stories of what he knew about this matter that I, a little boy, could not take it all in thoroughly enough to realize its great value from a historical point of view. I very much regret that my memory cannot bring back to me his numerous stories. I remember his showing me his large heavy rifle and his stories of its accuracy, etc. The sites he showed to me of the town and various camps I have not forgotten. For years Mr. Kelly was one of the Justices of the Peace of this town, a kindly man with a good education, a farmer who was active and influential in his town's affairs. I will never forget him.

Abel Eaton and Matthew Dryer, two of our best pioneers, also lived on this road. Mr. Eaton had a public house close to the East Avenue end of the road, and both of these men were popular and good citizens in this community. Both are now sleeping the last sleep in the Brighton Cemetery. On Mr. Dryer's place close to this road we find the Deep Rattlesnake Spring which forms to this day in deeds of land a permanent description of all metes and bounds. Mr. Dryer's farm was the one President Harding's ancestor invested his

money in upon the advice and solicitation of Salmon Tryon.

From the Deep Rattlesnake Spring flowed a little creek of icy cold, clear water, which was at one time alive with brook trout. This stream flowed into Allyn's Creek, and along this creek were the powder mills which blew up in 1863, causing loss of life, and which were owned by Marshfield Parsons, father to my good neighbor on East Avenue. Along this road Oliver Culver, one of our greatest pioneers, hauled a schooner of forty tons by twenty-six yoke of oxen and moored it in the creek at the Landing. This schooner was built on the Hoyt place, corner of Clover Road and East Avenue. Picture to yourself, my friends, the sight they must have made in this journey to the Landing. All men of prominence, Indian warriors, British officers, all our early settlers travelled over this road. At its terminus was the great trading center of the west. It was the only communication with this celebrated place with the exception of Indian trails and communication by water.

Salmon Tryon, the founder of this place, came here from Ballston, Saratoga County, N. Y., prior to 1797, when he founded this city, expecting it to become the great city of the Genesee Valley. Whatever else he may have been, he was certainly a shrewd business man. He was not, as stated by many historians, in financial straits, but all records that I have examined to date show he was a money maker, and a man of good business discernment. He purchased this property of John Lusk, who came here in 1789 from West Stockbridge, Massachusetts. He was born at Newington, Connecticut, February 20th, 1748, and was our first permanent settler. He with others purchased 1500 acres in this section for twenty-five cents per acre, which amounted to just \$375.00. He was a man of prominence. A soldier in the patriot army of the War of the Revolution. Enlisting in the New York Line from May 5th, 1778, he served his country until January, 1782. He built his home near the Landing, close to the water, and also built and conducted a distillery and tannery. His home was somewhere near us. As my information is, it was close to the Landing Road. He did a large business for this early period,

and was closely identified with all matters of public benefit. His son Stephen married Sarah Hincher of this well known pioneer family, who was his second wife and was the widow of Franklin Davis.

Both Mr. Lusk and his son, Stephen, removed to what is now the Town of Pittsford in 1807. and immediately commenced a similar business in that place. He died in what is now Pittsford in 1814, aged 66 years, and is buried in the old cemetery near the Canandaigua Road and has an inscribed head stone, according to Mrs. Yates' records, dated, 1910. His wife died in 1815 and her decease is recorded in the church records of the 1st Presbyterian Church of that town. I hope our chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution will investigate and see that his grave is suitably marked. To Salmon Tryon came the opportunity to sell his City of Tryon site and make some money, so he accordingly sold out his holdings to one John Tryon, of Canaan, Columbia County, N. Y., for \$3,500.00. All of our early historians seemed to infer that these two men were brothers and so wrote them in their history. In all my research work to date I have not found one single record that would justify such a statement. I do not believe they were brothers and in fact there may be no relationship. If there was, research shows it was distant.

John Tryon had a reason for coming here. What that reason was is a matter for conjecture. It is reasonably certain that Salmon Tryon, born in Weathersfield, Connecticut, and Huldah Tryon, born in 1740 at the same place, were brother and sister. She married Abraham Harding, Jr., in 1762, he having been born in 1740. It is evident that this marriage influenced the Harding investment here and I find he and Salmon Tryon bought considerable land in other places in Western New York. It seems also significant that after Salmon Tryon sold his City of Tryon lots, Mr. Harding got rid of his investment promptly also. There were many Tryons in these early days in this country. One was a General in the British army located in New York during the War of the Revolution, who was born in the North of Ireland in 1725. Another was the Colonial Governor, William Tryon, after whom

Tryon County was named. A William Tryon entered the War of the Revolution in the patriot army, and is recorded in the levies under Gen. Marinus Willett.

I have recently searched very carefully the town records of the town of Northfield, which are found in excellent condition in the Town Clerk's office of the town of Pittsford, for information as to the reasons our early historians record John Tryon as a Judge. His name does not appear of record, while others who were Justices of the Peace are of record. Brighton records have nothing relating to him. It is evident the first historian made a mistake and all the others fell into line, including myself. I wrote to the War Department at Washington for the war record of both Salmon and John Tryon. The Adjutant General in reply states that Salmon is not recorded but that John Tryon is. His war record was not good. In fact I think the less said about it the better. As this place was the extreme end of civilization, and as Oliver Culver and many of the other early pioneers have never mentioned his name in their interviews with historians and others, it looks as though he was not very highly thought of by these people. If the Tryon mentioned in the War Department record is the same John Tryon who located here, his reasons for coming here seem to be clear. Without doubt his place of residence was this old store until his decease and he was buried in the Tryon Cemetery, which has been recently found.

My first information in relation to the Cemetery of the City of Tryon came from a well known business man of our city, Mr. William H. Rowerdink who was born and brought up in the same house formerly occupied by the pioneer, Oliver Culver who first lived here after his marriage. Mr. Rowerdink's father purchased this place which is located a little north of where the Riches Dugway Road starts from the Landing Road, and is the last house on the left side of the Landing Road before the intersection of the Blossom and Landing Roads. After the decease of Mr. Rowerdink's father this old house was rebuilt but still retains its original timbers, notwithstanding its having been enlarged. The old cemetery

is located near the site of Schuyler's block house. During the days of childhood and boyhood of Mr. William H. Rowerdink, the Landing Road followed its present lines with the exception that it extended northerly in a straight line to a small ravine adjacent to the Schuyler site: the road at this point making a sharp turn to the east, following the bed of the ravine to Irondequoit Creek. This ravine was between the Schuyler site and the high ground on the south, on top of which a Custom House was established by our government after the War of the Revolution. The graves of the dead were located on the north side of this ravine, on high ground, about one hundred yards west of the site of Schuyler's block house. Boards stood at the head of some of the graves, time and the elements having obliterated any lettering. A number of people were buried at this place. Without doubt the remains of John Tryon and many members of his family are here buried. This Cemetery site has been fully verified by people dwelling in this section. The location seems to establish the fact that this cemetery is upon the former property of John Tryon. In those early days it was the custom for owners of property to have their family burying ground on their own property. Probably John Tryon's home was located somewhere on this ridge. I have received from Mr. Rowerdink a very interesting and instructive letter pertaining to his remembrance of this place and with his consent I quote it in full:

My dear Mr. Babcock:

Your articles in the Post Express, regarding the former settlements of Tryon, have been very interesting reading to me, and as an old resident of Brighton, N. Y., I personally, want to thank you for the interest you have taken in noting down facts concerning the village of Tryon before the inhabitants settled on the banks of the Genesee. It is particularly interesting to me, having spent at least half of my life on the Landing Road near which the village of Tryon was located.

You mention Oliver Culver, the father of Marvin Culver. I remember him very well. He was a very old man and totally blind, as I recall when his coachman drove into our yard, our home being located on the Landing Road. He made inquiry regarding the large poplar trees in front of our home, which he had planted when a boy. He said he planted three of these trees, and placed empty barrels over them to keep them from being destroyed by the Indian boys. He said that the Indians were very fair and honorable, but the children were very mischievous indeed. He told my father that his son, Marvin Culver, was one day having a dispute with one of the Indian boys, and the father of the Indian promptly took his tomahawk and cut a gash in the head of the Indian boy.

Marvin Culver was particularly interested in that part of the country, and was instrumental in my father purchasing the farm located there. He had worked for Mr. Culver on his East Avenue property, cutting down timber and clearing the land where Mr. Eastman's home is now located, and like every true American Mr. Culver was anxious to see his fellow citizens prosper. Mr. Marvin Culver in later years often reminded me of the time he had in inducing my father to purchase the farm. In meeting him on the street one day, Mr. Culver said to me that he had sold his property, but that it didn't take the purchaser as long to decide as it did my father. He said Mr. Eastman called him up and asked if his property was for sale, and he told him that it was. "What price have you on it?" asked Mr. Eastman, and upon being told the price he asked Mr. Culver to send his search to his attorney, Mr. Hubbell, and the check would be there for him,—contrasting this with purchases made in Tryon.

I also remember very distinctly that about half a mile north of the termination of Landing Road was a lane, through which we used to drive and cut flags, in the fall of the year, on the marsh land, which was owned by Mr. Elisha Y. Blossom, father of the late Thomas Blossom. In going down this lane one day for a short distance and then turning to the right, father and I saw the remains of three houses. Of two of them nothing was left but decayed timbers and remnants of chimneys. The other house was partly remaining, one side being not yet demolished. I suppose the poet had in mind some such thing when he wrote the words which run through my mind something like this—

"And the gray rats raced through the crumbling walls,  
And the wild winds wailed through the vacant halls,  
Of the house that stood by the rolling river."

While looking around we found two or three white slabs, being the remains of grave stones. The writing on them was completely effaced, but it impressed me so vividly that I never got over the fear of going by that place on account of those grave stones and the imaginary spirits which hovered around the dead bodies buried there.

Just a few rods east of this so-called village was an old bridge which spanned Irondequoit Creek. I have often sat fishing on those timbers, which were nearly decayed on account of age, but I never developed that art and my father never encouraged me in it, so I usually had the fisherman's luck.

I also very distinctly remember a lane running between my father's property and Mr. Harrison Lyon's, father of the late Edmund Lyon. This lane or road was an extension, I believe, of the road that ran by this little village of Tryon, and the people coming from Canandaigua drove over this old bridge that I mention, and could take the Landing Road by either turning to the left or going directly west and connecting with this so-called road on the Harrison Lyon side. There was a piece of ground on our farm that we could reach only by going through this lane, and Mr. Harrison Lyon was very willing to have my father use it whenever he cared to, but it was distinctly understood that it was not a public highway.

The other evening I was speaking with Alderman DePotter, of the Twenty-first Ward, and he said he remembered distinctly that red brick was scattered on that piece of property when he, as a boy, with others used to go in swimming, and he remembers distinctly when one of the boys dove in the creek and struck the remains of a decayed post under the water, being part of this old property heretofore mentioned.

This may not seem very interesting to you, Mr. Babcock, but it confirms your idea that the village of Tryon was situated at that point,

and that the old inhabitants saw that Irondequoit Creek was not large enough to locate a city there, and therefore they abandoned it and helped improve our beautiful city on the Genesee.

Very respectfully yours,  
W. H. Rowerdink.

John Tryon was successful in leading many of the early settlers to invest their money in his schemes which resulted in complete financial loss to all these investors. The official records of Ontario County show he disposed of all his property before his decease by transfers to one Cornelia Tryon, who may have been his daughter. It is noted in all these transfers that he reserves to his wife, Eunice Tryon, her dower interest. Book 3, Page 152, Ontario County records, states: "July 16th, 1808. Administrator appointed for the dower of Eunice Tryon, widow and relict of John Tryon, late of Columbia County. Lands in Northfield whereof the said deceased died." Official records of Columbia County show that he sold his real estate in Canaan in 1802.

Like all places of the far frontier this place was very wild with many desperate and dangerous characters. Lynch law was in full force in this new place and some were made to feel its full power. A warehouse was located near the Landing and a flour mill said to cost \$15,000.00 was erected. The brick fire place Mr. Barnes and I found years ago was on the bank of the ravine close to Schuyler's block house. The brick was imported as all brick used in the earliest days was generally imported.

Forty and fifty ton schooners came and went from this place. The Indian trade was large, it being the door of the Seneca Nation. The water power of the Genesee and later the canal ended the chances for the proposed city. In 1812 the Landing section was again active in fitting out supplies for the American army. William Stoneburner, son of Leonard Stoneburner, was active in this work. He was captured by the British in one of his expeditions, his boat and supplies confiscated, and he was imprisoned and finally released. Leonard Stoneburner was a blacksmith, a carriage maker and ship builder. His place was near us. He built several schooners and placed them on the lake.

The old store built in 1799 and opened under the name of John Tryon & Co., was the first and only store this side of Canandaigua and was located on this bluff on the Landing Road. The building was quite large, of log and board construction, and stood supported on wooden posts. Its business was large and extensive, barter with the Indians and settlers who came from very long distances to trade. Whiskey and rum were also sold and were cheap. The most of its supplies were shipped in by water. Oliver Culver acquired an interest in this store and it was from one of his grand-daughters that I procured the information I mostly have about it. The store books were in her possession and are now in the care of our society. The store finally burned, which brought to its owners the insurance. Among its customers from 1799 to 1805 I record the following: Asa Denton, Josiah Fisk, William Hincher, Senior and Junior, Glover Perrin, Capt. Simon Stone, James Wadsworth, John Tryon, Isaac Stone, Nathan Fisk, Oliver Phelps, Major William Shephard, Caleb Hopkins, Otis Walker, Samuel Lattie, Caleb Martin, Leonard Stoneburner, John Strowger, Ruth Northrup, Augustus Griswold, William Davis, Polly Hopkins, Silas Losey, Capt. Benj. Pierson, Ezekiel Taylor, Moses Taylor, Lewis Morgan, Joel Scudder, Job Northrup, Giles Blodgett, Capt. Silas Nye, Joseph Palmer, Reuben D. Hart, Rufus Messenger, Nathan Nye, Orringh Stone, Abner White, Miles Northrup.

Matters of great interest probably took place very often in this store, but what they were we will never know. Mr. Turner, who interviewed Oliver Culver, could have secured probably a large fund of interesting matter. The early settlers have passed away and also their children. It is well that we make record of all that we have. To me all these historic places seem sacred. I am glad I knew some of these early settlers, but I regret that I failed to record all that I heard in childhood's days.

The Landing was the oldest and most noteworthy place in this whole section and was given this name because it was the landing place of the early Indians who came here from the Great Lakes. Among all the early historians whose writings

I have read but one person seems to have given very much attention to this place and that was the late George H. Harris, who called this the most important and celebrated place in Western New York. I think Mr. Harris in making this statement was absolutely right. I remember meeting him once at the old mill at Allyn's Creek where he was with Squire Barnes, but I never saw him again. I was too young to realize the value of taking in all of their conversation. Squire Barnes was a veritable encyclopedia when it came to a matter of local history. His memory was wonderful and it is said that after reading a chapter of the poets he could close the book and repeat every verse he had read. His father, Isaac Barnes, was one of the many investors in the Tryon lots.

Indian trails led from this place to the Genesee River, to the towns of the Seneca Nation and to all points east, west, north and south.

Every particle of ground around this old place is rich in historical association, and the same can be said of all the ground along the lines of these trails between here and the sand bar at the lake. It was the most important trading center in the lower Genesee Valley. Across the creek the huge dome shaped hill in front of us was originally connected to the main land by a high narrow ridge. The action of the elements has washed away this ridge, leaving the hill in front of us an island. Along this hill a trail extended to the main land on the east side of the creek, thence north to the sand bar at the lake. I could give you much of interest relating to this trail, but we have not the time. A second trail turned east at the ridge, extending through Sodus to Oswego.

On August 10th, 1669, La Salle, the French explorer, looking for the Ohio River, came into this section. He had four canoes and twenty-four men, including two priests of the seminary St. Sulpice, Montreal. These priests' object in coming here was the conversion of the natives. They were accompanied by two other canoes containing a party of Seneca Indians who acted as guides. The party landed at the sand bar and accompanied by crowds of savages were escorted to Gánn-

gora (Boughton Hill). They remained there one month. La Salle was on the soil of Western New York many times and was very familiar with this place. The Landing Bridge, in existence at this place for years, was a means of communication to this trading center from the trails along the main land. It was of wood construction, built high, giving considerable clearance above the water, and rested on long spiles sunk into the muddy bottom of the creek. I distinctly remember seeing two of these spiles. Somewhere along the creek at this place stands a monument marking this place, which I saw years ago but have been unable to find recently while here. My remembrance is that it was not placed correctly, being too far to the south. Close to this bridge the sunken hull of a large schooner was visible for many years.

Prideaux's expedition with Sir William Johnson second in command, camped near here in July, 1759. Also Gen. Bradstreet, with Sir William Johnson, in their expedition in 1764. Lieut.-Col. Israel Putnam and other afterward distinguished officers of the War of the Revolution were in this expedition. Numerous cabins stood along the Creek through this valley, occupied by squatters and trappers who followed a roving existence. One of these cabins I remember. It stood for years near the foot of the dugway and was occupied by Adam Miller, a negro who did veterinary work.

In the summer of 1721, the Assembly of New York passed an Act to raise the sum of 500 pounds for securing the Indians to the English interest. Governor Burnet, governor of this Province, expended this sum chiefly for the establishment of a trading post at the Landing on Irondequoit River. His action met with the hearty approval of the authorities at Albany and consequently a small company of volunteers was organized to carry it into effect. This company consisted of Capt. Peter Schuyler, Jr., Lieut. Jacob Verplanck, Gilleyn Verplanck, Johannis Van Den Bergh, Peter Gronendyck, David Van Der Hayden, and two others whose names are unknown. Capt. Peter Schuyler, Jr., was the son of Col. Peter Schuyler, after whom old Fort Schuyler, now known as Utica, was named. I find he was at one time Mayor of Albany. Old Fort Schuyler

was built in 1758. At the opening of the War of the Revolution, Fort Stanwix, located at Rome, was nearly in ruins. This fort was rebuilt and named Fort Schuyler after Gen. Phillip Schuyler, who was the nephew of Col. Peter Schuyler. The siege of this fort and the following battle of the Oriskany, form one of the most important and interesting events of this war.

Fort Schuyler was without a flag when the enemy appeared August 3rd, 1777. Their ingenuity solved the problem. The white stripes were made from strips cut from cloth shirts, the red stripes from bits of scarlet cloth, and the blue ground for the field from a cloak belonging to Capt. Abraham Swarthout of Dutchess County. When the last stitch was taken, amid the cheers of the men, Fort Schuyler first unfurled the stars and stripes in the face of the enemy. I mention this matter in history as I believe many of the participants in this siege were frequently in this section.

Upon his arrival at the Irondequoit Landing Capt. Schuyler selected a location for his trading house secure from French surveillance, yet affording easy access to Lake Ontario with full control of the waterway and all Indian trails leading to the water. The building was long and oblong in shape and fitted for any emergency that might arise. I have a copy of Governor Burnet's orders to Capt. Schuyler. They are quite long and very interesting. After being at this place one year Capt. Schuyler and his companions returned to Albany.

#### **Governor Burnet's Instructions to Capt. Peter Schuyler, Jr.**

You are with all expedition to go with this company of young men that are willing to settle in the Sinnekes country for a twelvemonth to drive a trade with the far Indians that come from the upper lakes, and endeavor by all suitable means to persuade them to come to Albany to trade, or with this new settlement. You are not to trade with the four hithermost nations but to carry your goods as farr as the Sinnekes country to trade with them or any other Indian nation that comes hither. You are to make a settlement or trading house either at Jerundequat or any other place on this side of Cederachqui Lake upon land belonging to the Sinnekes, and use all lawful means to draw the fur trade thither by sending notice to the far Indians that you are settled there for ease and incouragement by my order, and that they may be assured they shall have goods cheaper here than ever the French can afford them in Canada, for the French must have principal Indian goods from England, not having them of their own. You are also to acquaint the far Indians that I have

an absolute promise and engagement from the Five Nations that will give them all due encouragement and sweep and keep the path open and clean whenever they intend to come and trade with this Province. Being informed that there are sundry Frenchmen called by the Dutch "bush loopers" and by the French "Coureurs du Bois," who have for several years abandoned the French Colony of Canada, and live wholly among the Indians, if any such come to trade with you, with their furs, you may supply them and give them all possible encouragement to come hither where they shall be supplied with Indian goods cheaper than Canada. Altho the place where you settle be land belonging to the Crown of Great Britian, both by the surrender of the natives and the treaty of peace with France, never the less you are to send out Skouts and Spys, and be upon your guard, the French not being to be trusted, who will use all means to prevent the far Indians coming to trade with you or to Albany. You are to keep an exact dyary or journall of all your proceedings of any consequence, and keep a constant correspondence with the Commissioners of Indian affairs at Albany, whome I will order to give me an account thereof from time to time, and whenever you shall receive orders from me to treat with the Sinnekes, or any of the Five Nations, you are to be careful to minute down your proceedings and their answers, and to send them to me with the first opportunity, inclosing them to the commissioners of Indian affairs who will forward them with all expedition, and if any matters of great moment and fit to be kept secret do occur, you are to send an account thereof to me in a letter sealed which may be enclosed to the commissioners in order to be forwarded and you are not obliged to mention such matters in the letter to the Commissioners. When you come to the Sinnekes country you are to give them a belt of wampum in token they are to give credit to you as my agent to treat with them of all matters relating to the public service, and the benefit of the trade and at your desire to furnish you with a number of their people as you can agree upon. When you have pitched on a convenient place for a trading house, you are to endeavor to purchase a tract of land in the King's name and to agree with the Sinnekes for it which shall be paid by the publick in order that it may be granted by patent to those who shall become first settlers there for their encouragement. You are not to hinder or molest any other British subjects who are willing to trade there on their own hazard and account for any Indian goods, rum only excepted. You are to communicate to the company such articles of your instructions as shall be proper for their regulation from time to time. If you judge it necessary you may send one or two of your company to Albany as the necessary service of the company may require, but not above two of the company, of which yourself may be one, will be permitted to be absent at one time. All the goods and merchandise that you and said company shall take away with you are to be one joint stock and account, and all your profit and losse to be the same. Given under my hand at the Manor of Livingston, the eleventh day of September in the eighth year of his Majestys reign, Anno Dom. 1721.

Wm. Burnet.

#### Additional Instructions

Whereas it is thought of great use to the British interest to have a settlement upon the nearest port of the Lake Erie near the falls of Lagara, you are to endeavor to purchase in his Majestys name of the Sinnckes or other native proprietors all such land above the falls

of Iagara fifty miles to the southward of the said falls, which they can dispose off, you are to have a copy of my propositions to the Five Nations and their answer, and to use your utmost endeavor that they do perform all that they have promised therein, and that none of these instructions be shown to any person or persons but what you shall think necessary to communicate to the Lieutenant and the rest of the company.

At this place, in 1798, Oliver Culver, while excavating earth for the erection of a building which I believe was to be his ashery, found the foundation logs for a block house, evidently destroyed by fire. Large quantities of musket balls and other war material was found. When he first came into this section he mentions this block house on the little plateau and said it was a fort. When I first visited this place, being then a small boy and on a fishing outing with Squire Barnes, I found flints in great quantities, some of them being fine specimens which I picked up and looked at and then boy like discarded. Two old hand-hewed timbers of large size were on the ground and were doubtless what remained of Mr. Culver's ashery.

To the north of us stands old Sugar Loaf which tradition associates with Capt. Kidd and his treasure. This hill has been pretty thoroughly dug over by both Indians and white men. I have never heard of anything being found. Near this place at an inland flat, is said to have been a ship building place in early days.

Mr. Barnes informs me a custom house was in operation at this place after the War of the Revolution. I know nothing further about it.

My understanding of Denonville's route in this section is taken largely from the word of mouth of old settlers who heard their fathers and grandfathers talk about it. He landed at the sand bar, and after building a fort there executed a Frenchman named La Fontaine Marion, whose offense had been piloting several British expeditions. He was adjudged a deserter and shot. July 12th, 1687, Denonville's army then started on its march into the interior, their destination being the villages of the Senecas which they determined to destroy. Their first objective was Gannagora, the Mohawk Indian name for the village at Boughton Hill in Victor. While the army marched

over land on the east side of the bay and creek, the batteaux followed by water to the Landing where the army crossed. Proceeding southerly along high ground to what was known in the early days as Smugglers' road, they marched through this gradually rising ravine to what used to be known as Kelly's woods and made their first camp at a spring. From this place they proceeded southerly over level ground, passing near the residence of the late Spencer Covey, thence through Corbitt's Glenn, crossing Allyn's Creek where the large arch under the New York Central is located. They proceeded thence southerly through oak openings until they reached an ambuscade prepared for them in a small ravine along Irondequoit Creek near Victor. According to the French historian, Baron Van Hontan, the French were thrown into confusion and came nearly meeting with serious disaster. As it was one hundred Frenchmen were killed. The noise of the drums beaten by order of Denonville frightened the Senecas and they fled and he accordingly entered their village and destroyed it. His return march from Totiakton, called the great village, or Village of the Conception, located on Honeoye Creek this side of Honeoye Falls at the great bend, which he also destroyed, has been a matter of dispute by historians.

Denonville states they left Totiakton on July 23rd, and advanced two leagues or six miles. The next day they advanced six leagues or eighteen miles, reaching their destination at the mouth of Irondequoit Bay. It is said a brass cannon was lost off from a bateaux in the Ox Bow of the creek upon this return journey. This cannon has never been found. I am of the opinion he followed the trail from Honeoye to Red Creek, thence down this creek to the Portage trail, and from there to the Landing and sand bar. The distance this way would be twenty-two miles. Denonville states the distance to have been eight leagues or twenty-four miles. Along the high ridge in front of us as we look toward the south, when this ground was first broken by the plow a large amount of war material was found with all and every evidence of a battle. The early settlers' talk was that De-

nonville had a battle here. I have the lock of an old musket I picked up on this ground. History makes no mention of any battle at this place, but that one took place here some time I believe is true.

Probably no men in American history are more disliked and detested than the two Butlers, Colonel John, the father, and his son, Captain Walter Butler. John Butler was a native of Connecticut, but had lived for many years in the Mohawk Valley. Under Sir William Johnson he had served as Deputy Superintendent of Indian Affairs, and in the Niagara campaign of 1759, and the Montreal expedition of 1760, commanded the Indians under Johnson. You will note he was in the Pridgeaux expedition in 1759 and camped at this place with the rest of this army. He had large interests in land in the Mohawk Valley, and his home, still standing and occupied, is not far from Johnstown and his estate was named Butlersbury. His land was confiscated by our government after he had cast his lot with his King and he went to Canada to a place known as Niagara on the Lake, where he had five thousand acres of land given to him by the British Government, and a pension of \$3,500.00 per year during the remainder of his life. He was a very bitter Tory and was placed in command by Colonel Guy Johnson of a force of five hundred men, mostly Scotch Highlanders of the Catholic faith who were recruited from the Amsterdam section.

Both, Colonel John, and his son, Walter, were educated men and before the breaking out of the War of the Revolution prominent in their community. At the breaking out of the war they enlisted the co-operation of the Indians with the deliberate intention of bringing the savages into the Mohawk Valley to murder and destroy their former friends and neighbors. Captain Walter Butler, called by some Major Butler, a title he never was entitled to as was proven when from his body his commission was taken and found to be that of a captain. He was a fiend incarnate to all those settlers and prisoners that were so unfortunate as to fall into his hands. He devised the most inhuman tortures with devilish ingenuity, and it was doubtless he who directed the

savage Hiakatoo in the unheard of torture that was given Major Boyd of Sullivan's scouts when he was captured near Conesus Lake and tortured to death at Little Beard's town (Cuylerville). Even the savages themselves were filled with consternation at his acts.

Colonel Butler the father died on his farm at Niagara on the Lake, which is a few miles from this town, and is buried on his farm. A church close at hand has a tablet in memory of him which recites in its inscription his services to the British Government. Captain Walter Butler met a violent death after the battle of Johnstown at West Canada Creek and the circumstances are as follows: "When Butler arrived at West Canada Creek he swam his horse across the stream and then, turning, defied his pursuers, who were on the opposite side. An Oneida immediately discharged his rifle and wounded him and he fell. Throwing down his rifle and his blanket the Indian plunged into the creek and swam across. As soon as he gained the opposite bank, he raised his tomahawk and with a yell sprang like a tiger upon his fallen foe. Butler supplicated, though in vain, for mercy; the Oneida, with uplifted axe shouted in broken English, 'Sherry Valley, remember Sherry Valley,' and then buried his axe in his brain. He tore the scalp from the head of his victim, still quivering in the agonies of death, and ere the remainder of the Oneidas had joined him, the spirit of Butler had gone to give up its account. This place is called Butler's Ford to this day." (From Halsey's Old New York Frontier). It is said General Marinus Willett, upon reaching this place wanted to know if the body on the ground was Butler, and when he was informed it was, many of the soldiers whose friends had suffered all kinds of tortures at Butler's hands gave a loud cheer. He and his father's action in bringing the Indians down to massacre his old friends and neighbors will never be forgotten or forgiven.

We have plenty of evidence that the Butlers and their force of irregulars were very familiar with this place. The Ox Bow on the creek has been pointed out by the old settlers as their place of retreat together with the big spring at

Smugglers Cove, so called because a band of desperate men said to be smugglers made this their headquarters after the War of the Revolution. Their way to the south was over the old Indian trail made memorable by Denonville and was called Smugglers Road.

During the War of the Revolution the door to the Seneca Nation was closed tight, and from the interior went forth bands of savages in raids on the frontier settlements. There were no houses or habitation of white men in this section at that time. It is a fact that Butler and his army disappeared at times and could not be located. The limited man power of our country, and the miles of wild extensive frontier made it impossible to get these Tories and the day of reckoning had to come slowly. The proximity of this place to Canada, with the lake accessible and easy, made it a safe retreat for this army. The Tory, Walker, and the renegade, Allan, knew this place, and their presence in this section shows they had associates not far away. Both of these villains were in Butler's army. It remained for Sullivan to break the back of the Senecas and drive the Butler outfit out of the country until after the war. I am convinced the lynch court, always ready and on duty day and night in the City of Tryon, was used largely because of the Tories who lived with the Indians after the war and were ready for all kinds of crime.

A proposition made by a prominent lady member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, who resides in the Mohawk Valley, that the old Butler home at Butlersbury be purchased by their chapter and kept as a relic does not seem to meet with very much support.

Two weeks ago today, Mr. Charles P. Barnes, only living son of Squire Barnes, went with me over this whole section. We found things so changed it took us some time before we could determine the location of many of these old sites. The following Sunday I was called on the telephone by a Mr. Klow who lives in the dugway. He said that while excavating ground for a cellar to a house on the high ground next to Mr. Reddick's residence he plowed out the skull of an Indian. I went to the place after dinner and found the skeleton at

the place named. It was buried with its head to the north and feet to the south. In company with Mr. Alvin H. Dewey we determined to a certainty it was an Indian. In the grave was found a bear's tooth, some lead, remains of a knife, what I took to be pieces of pottery, a white man's clay pipe the stem of which showed evidence of its former owner's teeth and the bones of some animal, possibly a dog. The culture seemed to indicate that he had been buried a long time. No more finds have been made on this site to date.

Among those who came here with their families and made an early settlement, of course John Lusk stands out the most prominent, he being the first permanent settler in this section. After the War of the Revolution there was a tremendous exodus from New England into the new country in the west, meaning the states of New York and Ohio. Sullivan's soldiers had seen the wonderfully fertile land of the Senecas with their growing crops of truck and fine large fruit orchards. When they returned home the stories they told of what they had seen aroused a great interest and as the Indian troubles were at an end, they began to think and plan to remove to the wonderful country they had seen and heard so much about. Consequently New England suffered a tremendous emigration which resulted in leaving hundreds of homes without a tenant. In the Town of Peru alone in Berkshire County, Massachusetts, while I was engaged in genealogical work there, I saw hundreds of cellars without any house over them.

My historical paper has of record the names of those who came here at the earliest period. In the Brighton Cemetery is found the last resting place of many of these pioneers. I record the names of those whom I found owned lots in this cemetery: William B. Billinghamurst, Miles Northrup, Romanta Hart, Job Northrup, James Hart, Myron Plumb, Joseph Bloss, Major William Shephard, Daniel Smith, Leonard Stoneburner, Solomon Hatch, Eli Stilson, Roswell Hart, Abel Eaton, Matthew Dryer, Orringh Stone, Ezekiel Morse, Otis Walker, Samuel Beckwith, Daniel West, Isaac Barnes, Isaac Moore, Thomas Blossom.

When the old Congregational Church located on the hill

near the cemetery, which was founded by the Rev. Solomon Allen, of Northampton, Mass., was burned, nearly all the church records and all the cemetery records with the exception of an old map which hung in the church and was rescued by Mr. William Shelmire, and two church books in my possession for the church, were destroyed. This old map has blocked out upon it the lots of those people who had purchased burial lots in this cemetery. The map and the inscribed stones in this old cemetery is all we have today of record of those who were buried there prior to about 1890.

I have urged strongly upon the commissioners of this cemetery the desirability of a full record being made of all burials possible so that some kind of record may be in existence of those who are buried there. It seems to me that we owe this small effort to those who have gone, many of whom during their lifetime here did much for this community, the benefit of which we to a large measure enjoy. The old families who came here at an early period were among the best of the breed and blood of old New England. They were the true-blood Yankee stock which is rapidly being outnumbered by those who have been coming here from foreign lands. They were of the breed that Emerson says, "Fired the shot heard round the world." Many of us trace our lineage to these people. All that you and I and every member of this historical society can gather of these hardy, clean and splendid families should be gathered and made a matter of permanent record. I am willing to devote a large amount of my time if necessary to this work. I do think, however, we should work as a unit to attain this desirable end.

It is amazing to me that our early historians seem to have passed by this spot you have visited with me today with only very short allusions to it and many of these allusions incorrect. Official records were more plentiful in their time than now, and they also had the advantage of personal interviews with many of these early pioneers. I was fortunate in knowing a few of these people. I was, however, very young and the great impression made upon me at the time of these conversations was more in relation to the Indians than any-

thing else. I was prompted to take up this historical work more for the love of it, and bringing before our people the wonderfully rich historical field we have right here at home. I venture that but few of our people ever have given this section very much thought. We find, however, its importance as a great trading center as the leaves of our history unfold. It was the beginning of civilization in Western New York. It was also a promising spot in the early days for the building of a large city. With the passing of our early pioneers, and the sons of these early pioneers, we have lost much valuable information. The fire at Canandaigua which destroyed a large amount of records, ended for all time to come the opportunity to procure a large amount of valuable material. Later the fire in the Albany State Library wiped out records and information that are lost forever. Then the burning of the old church in this town was also a great disaster. Today the town records of Northfield are in the Town Clerk's office in the Town of Pittsford. They are having good care, but they should be in a safer place than in the hands of an elective officer. The uncertainty of what might happen impresses me with great responsibility. This responsibility is yours as well as mine. I have in my genealogical work seen church records ruthlessly torn from books of record and deliberately stolen by people who cared only for what they could get without thought of anybody else.

What I am trying to get at is that I believe valuable records should be kept safe in fire-proof vaults and that they should never be allowed out of the hands of their proper custodians. The late George H. Harris realized no doubt the great value of this historical field. I only met him once, but I want to say to you his work stands as one of the most valuable of any among our early historians. Our society should be proud of what he accomplished. I certainly am and am glad to pay this tribute to him.

I appreciate very much the kindness and loyalty of this society in giving me so much of your time and close attention when I first appeared before you. The history of this sec-

tion is by no means complete. To record all that is available of this historic place would fill a good sized book. I very much doubt, however, that a full record of this place can ever be made. It could have been accomplished at an early date, but the opportunity is passed and consequently lost for all time to come. It has been a great pleasure to me to go with you over the ground both last Saturday and today and show you the sites here of such historical interest. You have shown a wonderful interest in this history and I thank you and appreciate your kind attention.

# First Church Chronicles

*By ANAH B. YATES*

"From this church they led their brides,  
From this church, themselves were led—shoulder high."

Heathen worship was celebrated for the last time, in what is now the City of Rochester, in the winter of 1813, at the north-west corner of South Washington Street, at the intersection of the Erie Canal; the occasion being the annual feast of the Seneca Indians. The following spring "the first public worship of God, on the Sabbath" was held in a little 22 by 14 foot room, on the upper floor of Jehial Barnard's tailor shop, located on Buffalo street (now Main Street), a little west of the entrance to the Reynold's Arcade. The invitation to "Come to Church" was extended by Mrs. Wheelock and Mrs. Hamlet Scrantom. Mrs. Scrantom was the wife of the first permanent resident west of the river, and mistress of the first house erected in the village. The services were conducted by Mr. Warren Brown and Miss Delia Scrantom, a young woman of eighteen years, who afterwards married Jehial Barnard, their marriage being the first nuptial ceremony to be celebrated in the community, and was performed by our first lawyer, John Mastick. Mr. Brown later became an Elder of the church and "joined the countless throng" in 1815.

The first service consisted of prayer, singing of hymns and the reading of a printed sermon. Two years later, on the 22nd of August, the First Presbyterian Church of Rochesterville was formed and consisted of sixteen members, who "Having confessed their faith, and entered into covenant were constituted into a regular Church of Christ." The original members were:

1—Warren Brown, Elder. Died, 1815.

2—Henry Donnelly, Elder. Dismissed, September 14, 1817, to form a new church at Brighton.

3—Mrs. Hannah Donnelly. Dismissed, 1817, to Brighton.

- 4—Oliver Gibbs, Deacon. Died May 17, 1826.  
5—Jane Gibbs.  
6—Daniel West, Deacon. Dismissed, 1817, to Brighton.  
7—Elizabeth West.  
8—Elisha Ely. Dismissed to Third Presbyterian Church, 1827.  
9—Hannah Ely. Dismissed to Third Presbyterian Church, 1827.  
10—Charles Magne. Living, 1871, at Baltimore, Maryland.  
11—Polly Magne. Living, 1871, at Baltimore, Maryland.  
12—Aaron Lay.  
13—Sarah Lay.  
14—Sibyl Bickford.  
15—Arabella Starks. “Left the country, 1816.”  
16—Huldah Stoddard. “Left the country, 1816.”

The original church edifice was erected on Carroll, now State Street, about where the American Express Company has its office, and was a plain wooden building standing on buttresses, later converted into a store. The first Sabbath School organized in the village was in connection with this church, and sessions were held in a little frame building, used as a school house during the week, next to St. Luke's Church. Elisha Ely was the Superintendent for the year 1816. Rev. Comfort Williams was the first pastor and continued his pastoral labors until June 6th, 1821. Comfort Street perpetuates his name and place of dwelling.

#### Records of the First Presbyterian Church

April 1, 1816:—Azel Ensworth, from the church in Palmyra; Nancy Elliot, from the church in Rome; Lucy Williams, from Wethersfield, died September, 1824; Patty Stone.

April 10, 1816. the session met in Brighton:—Orringh Stone, from Penfield, dismissed September 14, 1817: Joshua Cobb, from Penfield, dismissed September 14, 1817; Sally Stone, Litchfield, Conn., dismissed September 14, 1817; Sophia Walker, Penfield, dismissed September 14, 1817; Laura A. Bush,

\* Nancy Hamford was my great Aunt;  
She married Lebbeus Elliott.

Lennox, Mass., dismissed September 14, 1817; Betsey Hatch, dismissed September 14, 1817.

April 18, 1816, the session met at the house of Doctor or Dalton Hermance:—Charles Dickinson, removed; Susan Hermance, from Lansingburgh, left the country summer of 1816; Lucretia Irvine, from Painted Post, dismissed November 24, 1816; Delia Stone.

June 15, 1816:—Huldah Stoddard was at her request dismissed to Harwinton, Conn.

February 1, 1817, the following persons expressed a desire to unite with the church, were examined and approved:—William Robb, from church at Catskill, “removed away” 1817; Mrs. Sally Robb, from church at Catskill, “removed away” 1817; Eli Ripley, from church at Adams, dismissed August 19, 1828; Sarah Ripley, from church at Adams, dismissed August 19, 1828; Everard Peck, from church at Hartford, Conn.; Salmon Scofield, from church at Albany, N. Y., dismissed 1827 to Third church; Ruth King, from church at Suffield, Mass., died May 12, 1830; Hannah Sill, from church at Lyne, Conn., dismissed 1833 to Brooklyn; Sally Bond, from Keene, N. H., dismissed January 5, 1823 to Third church; Rhoda Hall, from church at Handen (?), Conn., dismissed 1827 to Third church; Sarah Stone, from church at Lennox, Mass.; Matilda Barnes, from church at Onondaga Hill, N. Y.; Huldah Green, from church at Scipio, N. Y.; Perses Scofield, dismissed 1827 to Third church.

May 29, 1817:—Frances Parker, from the church at Brookfield, dismissed 1833; Huldah Green, removed.

September 7, 1817:—Catherine Mastick, from the church in Avon; Amelia West, from the church in West Springfield, Mass.

September 14, 1817:—At their request the church dismissed the persons whose names follow, that they may form into a church in their own town: Deacon West; Elder Henry Donnelly; Laura A. Bush; Sophia Walker.

December 21, 1817:—Moses King was received by examination, dismissed August 5, 1821.

May 3, 1818:—Derick Sibley, from the church in Mont-

pelier, Vt., dismissed May 3, 1825, Brick church; Nabby Sibley, from the church in Montpelier, Vt., dismissed November 17, 1827; Chauncey Harwood from the church in Pittsfield, Vt., removed to Murray; Puella Filer, from the church in Rome; Laura Cobb, from the church in Rome, dismissed 1827 to Third church; Lucy Allen, from the church in Albany, dismissed 1827, to Third church; Mrs. Wilkinson, from the church in Soquate (!), removed.

September 6, 1818:—Millisent Backus, from the church at Bethlehem, Conn.; Deborah Fish, died autumn of 1820; Derick Sibley, removed to Cincinnati, Ohio.

May 2, 1819:—William Nefus, from the church at Troy; Esther Nefus, from the church at Troy; Samuel Graves, from the church at Sunderland, removed; Lyman Granger, from the church at Sunderland, dismissed, 1826; Eunice Graves, from the church at Adams, removed; Eunetia Smith, from the church at Munson; Naomi Sampson, from the church at Pittsfield, Vt.: Philena (Philinda) Warren.

August last Sabbath, 1819. August 29th:—Millisent Clark, from the church in Leowville (?), joined the Episcopal church; Catherine Sharp Russell, dismissed; Julia Coleman; Phebe Spencer; Haplahaha or Hopaloner Shaw; Charles Williams; Horace Mallory; William Wiltshire, children of Daniel Warren and Philinda.

November, 1819:—Irene Sibley, from Walpole, N. H., died November 17, 1825; Polly James, from Middlebury, Vt., left the country, 1822; Margaret Scott, from Auburn.

January 2, 1820:—Esther Newton, from the church in Wallingford, left with letter; Jane Blossom, wife of Benjamin; Eliza Shaw, dismissed to Third church, 1827; Arabella Granger, dismissed to join the Methodist church, 1825.

May 28, 1820:—Joanna Needham, dismissed July, 1826.

July 2, 1820:—Jacob Gould and Ruby Gould, his wife, from Schenectady.

February 16, 1821:—David Allen from the church in Geneseo, N. Y.; Ezra Dunning, from the church in Ballston, N. Y., dismissed to Brick or Second Church; Jonathan Green from the church in Pawlet, Vt., dismissed October 13, 1822;

*X Phyllis Hanford was my great aunt;  
She married Philip Filer*

Eliza Smith, from the church in Ballston, N. Y.; Abby Smith, from the church in Ballston, N. Y., dismissed to Brick church, 1827; Rebecca Swan, from the church in Schenectady, N. Y.; Cloe Peck, from the church in Berlin, Conn.; Rebecca Backus; Josiah Bissell, Jr., dismissed to Third church; Henrietta Bissel (his wife), dismissed to Third church; Betsey Bullard, from the church at Whitesboro, dismissed to Third church; Hepzibah Wright, from the church at Adams, removed; Ruby Abels, from the church at Vernon, dismissed to Brick, 1827; Nancy Stone from the church at Oxford, Conn., dismissed to Vernon, 1830; Levi Ward, Jr., from the church at Bergen, N. Y.; Mehitable Hand, from the church at Bergen; Elizabeth Brown from the church at Milton, dismissed to Third church.

April 11, 1821:—Joseph Stone; Libbeus Elliott; Hastings R. Bender; George G. Sill; David Stone, removed; Rhoda Swan, died September 28, 1822.

April 12, 1821:—Sarah Ensworth, from Palmyra, died September 9, 1824, wife of Dr. Azel; Nancy Stone; Frederick F. Backus; Robert Wilson; Susannah Marsh, removed to Sandusky, O., and died 1834, of cholera; Mary Hannoks; Delia Stone, removed in 1827 to Sandwich Islands as a missionary.

April 20, 1821:—Hervey Ely, from the church in West Springfield, Mass.; Catherine Ely, from the church in Hatfield, Mass.; Benjamin Campbell; Anowester (?) Hamlin; Ann Ensworth; Sophronia Ensworth, dismissed to Brick church; Eliza Cobb, dismissed to Third Presbyterian.

May 6, 1821:—Henry B. Morehouse, dismissed May 16, 1822; Ebenezer Bliss, left the country in 1822, missionary to Cherokees; Hon. Ashley Sampson from Pittsfield, Vt., (began the practice of law in Rochester in 1821, first county judge, also representative from Monroe County, settled at Pittsford in 1818); Charles J. Hill.

July 23, 1821:—Moses King, dismissed to the church in East Bloomfield; Benjamin Campbell, dismissed to Second church. 1827.

May 5, 1822:—Elizabeth Lee, from church at Utica, died September 27, 1822; Martha Beach, from church at Lewiston; Elizabeth Hayes, from church at Clyde, died March 27, 1829;

Sally Allen, from church at Clyde; Silas Walker, from church at Clyde, dismissed 1833; Vina Walker, from church at Clyde, dismissed, 1833; Louiser or Leumer Preston, from church at Clyde, dismissed November 12, 1828; Mary Green, from church at Clyde; Judith Green, from church at Clyde; Jesse C. Hanford, from church at Clyde; Pliney Allen, from church at Hamburg, dismissed Third church, 1827; Louiser Allen, from church at Hamburg, dismissed Third church, 1827; Rufus Beach, from church at Homer; John H. Thompson, from church at Hartford, Conn., dismissed Brick church, 1827; Charlotte Livingston, from church at Litchfield, Conn.; Ruth Phips, from church at Albany; Jesse Peck, dismissed to New Haven, April 5, 1830; Russell Green (elder), from Clyde; Phillip Allen (elder), from Clyde, dismissed to Third church.

July 14, 1822:—Margaret Penney, from First Presbyterian Church, New York City; Margaret Balentine, from church of Chlemsford, Pa.: Huldah Dickinson, from church of Clyde; Margaret Henningway, from church of Clyde; Patrick P. Dickinson.

September 8, 1822:—Walter Badger, from Albany; Amelia Badger, from Albany; Maria Allyn, from New London (Congregational church); Daniel H. Ward, from Bergen.

October 13, 1822:—Jonathan Green, at his request dismissed.

November 10, 1822, the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered and the following persons admitted into the church: Linus Stevens, from the church in Sodus; Thankful Stevens, from the church in Sodus; John A. Catheart, from the church in Cooperstown; Asa Carpenter, from the church in Otisco; May Carpenter, from the church in Otisco; John Marshall, from the church in Cherry Valley; Electa Thompson, from the church in Hartford, Conn.; Hannah Burgess, from the church in Portland; Sarah Richey, from the church in Sacketts Harbor; Sara Catheart.

January 8, 1823:—Jeremiah Cutler, from the church in Ithaca; John Kennedy, from the church in Buffalo; Sally Bond, dismissed at her request.

March 9, 1823:—Eunice Munger, from the church at

\* Jesse Comstock Hanford Waring  
green white

Clyde; Frederick Starr, from the church at Warren; Sarah Starr, from the church at Warren; Mary Ann Mulligan, from the church at New York City; Henry Fisk, from the church at New York City; Moses Chapin, on examination; Mariah Chapin, on examination.

May 11, 1823:—Mabel Wilson, from the church in Pittsfield; Mary Hawkins, from the church in Milton; Salome Hill, from the church in Brinfield, Mass.

July 13, 1823:—George Harroll, by letter, from South church in New York City; Charlotte Harroll, by letter, from South church in New York City; Harriet Moore, by letter, from church in Albany; Polly Frederick, by letter, from church in Auburn; Moses King, by letter, from church in East Bloomfield; Hester Gordan, by letter, from church in Newburg; Eliza Brown, by letter, from church in Mount Morris; Jeremiah Selkrig, by letter, from church in Penn Yan; Horatio G. Lawrence, by letter, from church in Clyde; Mary Lawrence, by letter, from church in Clyde; Melvinia (?) Mortimer (?) Smith, by letter, from church in Victor; Maria Stockholm, by letter, from church in Poughkeepsie; Ann Hanford.<sup>x</sup>

At a meeting of the Session, held at the school house near the Episcopal church, June 12, 1823:—Resolved that Eliza Pratt (formerly Eliza Shaw), &c.

January 11, 1824:—Elizabeth Case, from Philadelphia; Julia Matthews, from Bath; John D. Henery, from Green.

March 14, 1824:—Sarah VanSantivord, from Utica; Delia Stevens, from Sodus; Robert Penny, from Drumbee, Ireland; Agnes Penny, from Drumbee, Ireland; Richard Martin, from Ballyrony, Ireland; May Martin, from Ballyrony, Ireland; Lucy Kellogg, from Manlius; James Thompson, from Tyrone county, Ireland.

May 2, 1824:—John T. Calhoun, from the church at Salisbury, Conn.; Esther Calhoun, from the church at Salisbury, Conn.; Pierce Darrow, from the church at Albany; Eunice Darrow, from the church at Albany; Bridget Law, from the church at Ovid; Julia Norton, from the church at Canandaigua; Cullen Brown, from the church at Watertown; Sarah Goodman, from the church at Pittsfield, Mass.

*x She is the wife of my great Uncle Tom Confolon Hanford. Her maiden name was Anna Hayes*

July 11, 1824:—John H. Brown, from the church in Elmira; Catherine Brown, from the church in Elmira; Abram W. Sedgwick, from the church in Chenango Point; Ruth Sedgwick, from the church in Chenango Point; Theodore Sedgwick, from the church in Chenango Point; Richard Gorsline, from the church in Bloomfield; Aurelia Gorsline, from the church in Bloomfield.

July 18, 1824:—Russell Green, Moses Chapin and Salmon Scofield were ordained as elders.

September 12, 1824:—Reuben Leonard, from the church in Bridgewater, N. Y.; Nancy Leonard, from the church in Bridgewater, N. Y.; Alpha Chapin, from the church in West Springfield, Mass.; Sarah Smith, from the church in Lyme; Mary Sill.

November 14, 1824:—William Hall, from the church at Bloomfield; Mary T. Hall, from the church at Bloomfield; Sarah Rice, from the church at Sudbury, Mass.; Isabel Averill, from the church at Springfield, Mass.; Mary Millard; Sarah Bell; Jane Harper.

December 31, 1824:—Samuel J. Smith; Samuel Balentine; Dr. George Harroll, misconduct for flourishing a gun and bragging. Witness, Anson House, esq., Timothy L. Bacon.

February 24, 1825:—Abijah Blanchard; Lydia White Blanchard; Catherine S. Russell; Timothy L. Bacon; Lydia Bacon; Arabella Granger, dismissed at her own request.

June 24, 1825:—Mrs. Hannah Griffin; Miss Rebecca Bishop; Spenceer Woodworth; Mrs. Amanda Woodworth; Ela Burnap; Sophronia Wilson; Sarah Wilson; Julia Brewster; Charlotte Jenks; Sarah Bates.

November 21, 1825:—John H. Brown violated the Sabbath, called to account for laboring and permitting his servants to labor on that day by burning lime, planting trees and cutting and drawing wood. Witnesses: Mrs. Bickford, Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Hill, Benjamin Wilson and his wife, Samuel and William Balentine.

December session, 1825:—Caroline Rogers; Deborah Williams; George Bostwick; Orpha Crane; Emily Kempshall;

Betsey White; Sarah Miner; Abijah Blanchard censured, the first charge: "The offense of rash judging condemned in Matthew 7th, 1-2," by Rev. James Penny, November 21, 1825. Seeond echarge: "Wit speaking and detraction as condemned Psalms 64:3, James 4:11, 1 Cor. 5:11, 1 Cor. 6:10, James 3:6-8 (commonly ealled slander). Third charge: "Bringing false witness."

March 1, 1826:—Mrs. Minerva Penfield; Emeline Goodsell; Mrs. Mabel Berthrong; Mrs. Mary C. Burr.

October, 1826:—Mrs. Ann Wilder; Miss Cynthia L. Bond; Mr. and Mrs. Mareus Holmes (Anna); Miss Harriet A. Woodbridge; Mr. Oliver Jewell and wife; Mrs. Tamar Campbell; Mrs. Eliza (?) Peck; Mrs. Mary Strong Seoville; Mrs. Harriet Griffith; Mr. Hiram Ripley. Also resolved—Abijah Blanehard; Dr. Myron Hurday (?) his wife; Margaret Hemingway; Joanna Needham; Mrs. Mary Carpenter have letters to Second Presbyterian church; David Cullen censured; Ashley Sampson, grievanee against Harvey Ely. Witness, George Bostwick (storekeeper).

December 23, 1826:—Appolos Luce and wife, Mary; Miranda Luce; Mrs. Ann Padden (?); Bethia Luce; Patty Luce; Mary Shepard; Elizabeth Ward.

January 5, 1827:—Luey T. Chapin; Albert Kellogg; William A. Holmes; Wealthy Ann Gibbs; Reuben Bardwell; Sarah Bardwell; Elsa Thompson; Elizabeth Ward; Phebe Hinston.

April 2, 1827:—The following dismissed to unite with the Third Presbyterian church: Philip Allen and wife, Sally; Pliney Allen and wife, Louise; Mrs. Harriet Moore; Mrs. Lucy Allen; Mrs. Smith; Mrs. Eliza Pratt; Miss Eliza Brown; Mrs. Hall. To Second Presbyterian church: Benjamin Campbell and Sophronia, his wife; John H. Thompson and Electa, his wife; Ezra Dunning, and his wife; Ela Burnap.

April 23, 1827:—Mrs. Alen Culver; Susan Caroline Cowan; Susan Matilda Cowan; Mrs. Sarah Barhydt; John R. Henery; Rufus Henery; Ebenezer Knapp and wife, Polly; Sophia Cummins.

First Sabbath in May, 1827:—Samuel D. Hatch and Fanny, his wife; Luman Farnsworth; Preston Smith; Sally Parker;

\* Should be Joseph Penny. My much  
Wm N. Ward for Wm. W.

Mary Wilson; Polly Luce; Sarah Ann Goodman; Minerva Stone; Caroline M. Steele; Mura VanSlyck; Lydia Hatch; Hiram M. Ward; Lucy Ann Hills; Electa Strong; Ashley Armes; Seth D. Chapin; Priscilla Wilson; Hiram Leonard.

(End of First Book)



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MRS. GILMAN H. PERKINS  
Life Honorary President of The Rochester  
Historical Society

# Tribute to Mrs. Gilman H. Perkins

*By* EDWARD R. FOREMAN

Note:—Mrs. Gilman H. Perkins was the Founder of The Rochester Historical Society under its present incorporation (1888). The record of organization is set forth in detail in this book in the first article, "The Origin and Mission of The Rochester Historical Society."

Mrs. Perkins was elected Life Honorary President of the Society, June 25, 1914. Death terminated her term of office, March 21, 1919.

On April 25, 1919, the following Memorial was adopted by the Society:

And now Mrs. Gilman H. Perkins has gone.

Her indomitable will ever resisted physical ailments. Like an Emperor, she believed she should die standing: "A king of France may die; he is never ill."

Into the green lanes of eternal springtime has passed a wonderful woman. With the heart of a girl, the courage of a man, the spirit of a hero, Mrs. Perkins has lived out the fullness of her time. All that a mother could be she was. All that ripened womanhood could win she accomplished. Beloved, honored, revered, at last she waved her world farewell, and with calm, level eyes crossed the western sunset into the final glory of her God.

True in every relationship of life, she has won the heavenly welcome: "Well done, good and faithful servant; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

What she was in her family life is sacred: "Her children rise up and call her blessed."

What she was in good works is reflected in the civic and social welfare organizations to which she gave her heart and which she vitalized by her tireless energy. To advise with Mrs. Perkins was to receive inspiration. Quick to perceive, firm in decision, decided in opinion, she was a tower of strength in any good cause.

How can we gauge the influence of such a life? The cunning hand of man cannot devise instrument of precision to weigh the influence of lofty character. Radiance of soul is

measured only by eternal standards. Our human hearts can only love and miss her.

Mrs. Perkins again demonstrated that worthy institutions are but the lengthened shadow of some personality. The Rochester Historical Society was, in a peculiar way, the child of her brain. She was the Founder, she was the life Honorary President. To the four walls of her hospitable home for years she summoned the leading men and women of Rochester to study the history and plan for the welfare of her city. For over thirty years she has given her best thought to establishing, on an enduring basis, an historical society worthy to preserve the great record of our civic deeds.

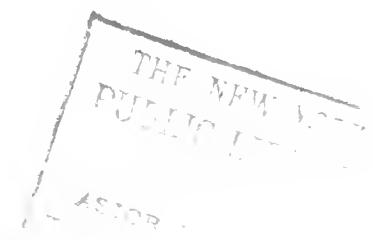
She left The Rochester Historical Society as her living, corporate being: an agency to guard and cherish the soul of Rochester, expressed in the achievement of its citizens.

Every resident of Rochester is her debtor because of this accomplishment. She was proud of her city. She loved its men and women. She gloried in our past and was determined that the record should be guarded with holy zeal for the benefit of posterity.

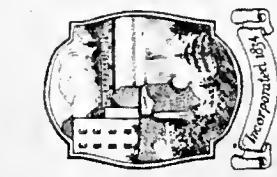
From her failing hands she has tossed the torch of high endeavor. We shall not fail to seize and carry on.

Representing the society, and the citizens of Rochester, the members of the Board of Managers of The Rochester Historical Society memorialize the life of Mrs. Gilman H. Perkins. By every expression of honor, by every tribute of love, we speak her name.

Her hail and farewell is both sorrow and great joy. She dies to the sound of music. She has won her day. Though we greet her no more she has set up her standards. A noble life, crowned with heroic death, rises above and outlives all earthly pomp.



Certificate Presented to Hiram H. Edgerton, Life Honorary President  
of The Rochester Historical Society

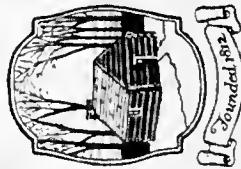


*This Certifies that*

*Hiram H. Edgerton*  
IS AN HONORARY MEMBER AND HONORARY PRESIDENT OF

### The Rochester Historical Society

With all the attendant Honors and Benefits  
thereof and as such he shall be at all times,  
ex officio, a member of the Board of Managers.



In witness whereof

*Charles A. Nichols*  
PRESIDENT  
*Edward R. Foss*  
VICE PRESIDENT  
*Wm. J. Tracy*  
SECRETARY

Having been unanimously elected at a  
regular meeting of the Society held at  
the Municipal Museum, Monday, Jan-  
uary ninth, 1922 as a tribute of sincere  
affection and in appreciation of his en-  
spiteous services to the Society.



# Hiram Haskell Edgerton

*By* EDWARD R. FOREMAN

Hiram Haskell Edgerton, Life Honorary President of The Rochester Historical Society, died at his home in Rochester, Sunday, June 18, 1922.

His memory will be perpetuated in the great city that has inherited his work. A plain man, of sturdy colonial ancestry, full of sound sense and kindness, he won and adorned high places of trust and command.

As a faithful public servant he illustrated in the highest degree principles of civic loyalty and the practice of genuine devotion to his townsmen. He lived not to himself, but became a portion of the community around him. To serve his city became his dominant desire. Therefore he found favor in the hearts of his fellow citizens.

He has been called "a great city builder." But best of all he built his life into our institutions, infusing the love of city into our very bricks and stones.

In countless achievements he endeared himself. Practical always, but a dreamer of fine dreams, he brushed aside the smoke and dust and gave us glimpses of a very beautiful Rochester, idealizing the old town into the City of Heart's Desire. He lived to see realized many of his ideals and cherished hopes.

At Exposition Park, where the library and museum of The Rochester Historical Society are located, we have a concrete example of his finest accomplishment, one of his dreams come true. A grim prison has disappeared, and over its site a civic park endures, where public library, museum, school, children's playground, and great industrial expositions exist as a memorial of the far-sighted founder who fought a good fight against odds and won it all for the people. Exposition Park is a monument, speaking his personality and vision to coming generations. Most fittingly this park has been renamed "Edgerton."

It was at Exposition Park that The Rochester Historical Society found a congenial home under Mayor Edgerton's fostering care. With gladness we publicly acknowledge our debt to him.

We pay him a final tribute of affection as a red rose from our heart of hearts, where he will ever be enshrined in love and veneration.

As we record his fame we are again reminded that those most deserve a memorial who do not need one—who have raised themselves a monument in the minds and memories of men.

Hiram H. Edgerton, born April 19, 1847, in Belfast, Allegany County, N. Y., received his early education in the public schools of Allegany and Cattaraugus Counties, with one year in the Genesee Seminary at Belfast; removed to Rochester with his parents in 1858, and finished his education in the public schools of Rochester, No. 12 and the Free Academy, and Rochester Business Institute. At the age of sixteen he was associated with his father in the retail lumber business, and after the death of his father, in 1868, succeeded to the business which he successfully conducted together with a retail coal business until 1880, when he sold the lumber business and began the business of contracting and building.

During his career as contractor and builder he constructed nearly forty churches and church buildings and many mercantile and commercial buildings throughout the state; the east wing of the Elmira Reformatory; the post office and government building; Wilder Building, and Sibley, Lindsay & Curr Building at Rochester; and for many years practically all of the structural building of the Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh Railroad.

In length of service as a public official he was the senior of any man since the incorporation of Rochester as a city in 1834. He completed this term of service with fourteen years as chief magistrate after he had passed the three score milestone.

Mr. Edgerton was elected school commissioner, representing the Fourth Ward, in 1871, and served four years, two

years as President of the Board of Education. He was largely instrumental in having the Free Academy, now the Municipal Building, and No. 15 School erected during his term.

He was appointed by the Common Council as a member of the Commission, consisting also of Hon. George W. Aldridge and John Alden, to construct the East Side trunk sewer, Mr. Aldridge representing the City of Rochester as a member of the Board of Public Works; and after the appointment of Mr. Aldridge as Superintendent of Public Works, Mr. Edgerton served as president of that commission during the building of the sewer. At that time the sewer was a large project and was constructed within the estimate.

He was elected President of the Common Council in 1899 and served in that capacity until December 31, 1907. For a short time in the latter part of 1903 he served as acting Mayor upon the resignation of Mayor Rodenbeck to become a member of the Court of Claims.

He was a member of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment twenty-two consecutive years, eight years as President of the Common Council and fourteen years as Mayor.

He was elected Mayor of the City of Rochester in the fall of 1907 and served from January 1st, 1908, the day that Rochester became a city of the first class, until December 31st, 1921.

He was appointed Supervisor of Building Construction on January 3, 1922, in the Department of Public Works, with authority to complete the various municipal construction projects which he had begun as Mayor. Thus it happened that he remained in public service to the very last, "dying in the harness."

The outstanding features of Mayor Edgerton's administrations are the transformation of the old State Industrial School into Exposition Park and the organization of the Rochester Exposition; the establishment of the Rochester Public Library system; the construction of the third conduit from Hemlock Lake to the city, the establishment of a city park at Hemlock Lake and the enlargement and protection of the water supply at both Hemlock and Canadice Lakes; the

completion of Cobb's Hill reservoir; the construction of the new sewage disposal plants and the system of intercepting sewers which took the sewage out of the Genesee River; the construction of the Central Avenue Bridge and the widening of Central Avenue; the construction of the Clarissa Street bridge; the construction of garbage and incinerator plants; the establishment of Ontario Beach as a city park; the aviation field; the general development of the park system; the establishment and development of the public playgrounds of the city, until in 1921 there were twenty-five playgrounds; the building of municipal bath houses in two parks and two in the city; the annexation of the Brighton section as the Twenty-first ward; the annexation of Charlotte as the Twenty-third ward; and the annexation of the Lincoln Park section as the Twenty-fourth ward.

On his last day as Mayor he issued a farewell statement that closed with the words: "My confidence in the future of Rochester is unbounded and my faith in the people is limitless. I am sure they will permit no backward steps. I leave office with the consciousness of having tried to do my full duty according to my ability. Let me again assure the people of my deep affection for them and of my abiding faith in our city."

Mr. Edgerton will be long remembered as the War Mayor, for he was the devoted, untiring and unselfish leader in all of Rochester's World War activities. During the entire war period, in loan campaigns, through food and fuel administrations, and in every emergency, he placed all the resources of the city at the country's disposal. It was through his instrumentality that there was organized the Home Defense League, an enterprise that made available more than a thousand men who did yeoman service in auxiliary police work.

When the call came for the Sons of Rochester to go forth to serve in battle, the Mayor gave himself with redoubled energy to honor our hero boys. He was always at the Armory or railroad station to bid personal farewell and Godspeed to the departing men, and many answered him with a last good bye who were never in this life to return.

When the war was over and the stern task completed he undertook their welcome home in a series of banquets where each was awarded an honor medal emblematic of the city's appreciation of gallantry. To every man he presented the following:

## Greeting

To the Soldiers, Sailors and  
Marines of Rochester:

To you loyal sons of Rochester, who departed in honor and return in glory, I extend, on behalf of the people of the city, a sincere and loving greeting. Your faithful service to your country and to humanity in the great crisis just passed, has endeared you to us all. The service you have rendered civilization has won for you the respect and admiration of the world.

For your safe return to Rochester I am grateful to God. With sorrow, but with steadfast reliance on the wisdom of Divine Providence I pray for those who have made the Supreme Sacrifice. With the extended arms of affection I welcome you home.

Sincerely yours,  
HIRAM H. EDGERTON  
Mayor

One of his last public acts as Mayor was to provide for an adequate World War Service Record which would include the military or naval biography of every service man and the complete history of Rochester's contribution toward the winning of the war.

The passing from earthly life of Hiram H. Edgerton brought universal sorrow. Accorded a public funeral, lying in state in City Hall where thousands gathered to pay their final tribute of love and respect, borne to his last resting place in Mt. Hope with every civic honor, his noble career was fittingly closed.

# Eulogy

*By REV. C. WALDO CHERRY, D. D.*

At the funeral services for Mayor Edgerton held in Central Presbyterian Church, Wednesday, June 21, 1922, Rev. C. Waldo Cherry, D. D., spoke as follows, from the text: "And I, John, saw the Holy City, the New Jerusalem, descend down out of the heaven:"

Even so another man had a vision of the City Beautiful, a city of parks and playgrounds, a city of happy homes and enduring, uplifting institutions where the sordid vices of moral contagion that plague other cities had been abolished and where clean amusements and worthy occupations had taken their place, a city where men, women and little children would have room to grow in the vitality of physical health and the graces of mental and spiritual enlargement.

It was over fifty years ago that this dream of the City Beautiful came to Hiram H. Edgerton, and he gave his life making the dream come true. He forgot the interests and ambitions which other men seek; he gave himself to Rochester so that today there is scarcely one of the great and beautiful things which we possess in this city of schools and buildings and parks and other institutions of public welfare which does not somewhere have his personality stamped upon it.

An ancient English monarch said, "When I die you will find Calais written upon my heart." If we could have looked into the heart of Hiram Edgerton during these years we should have found "Rochester" written there.

It is our joy today that his dream was realized, that he saw the city growing in all that makes for the freedom, happiness and uplift of its citizens; that he saw every great project in which he was interested realized. During the latter years of his life it was his great comfort and satisfaction to go about the city and rejoice humbly and thankfully for all that he had been permitted to see come to pass in Rochester. It is very characteristic of him that the last

words he uttered were, "I want to go to Highland Park tomorrow."

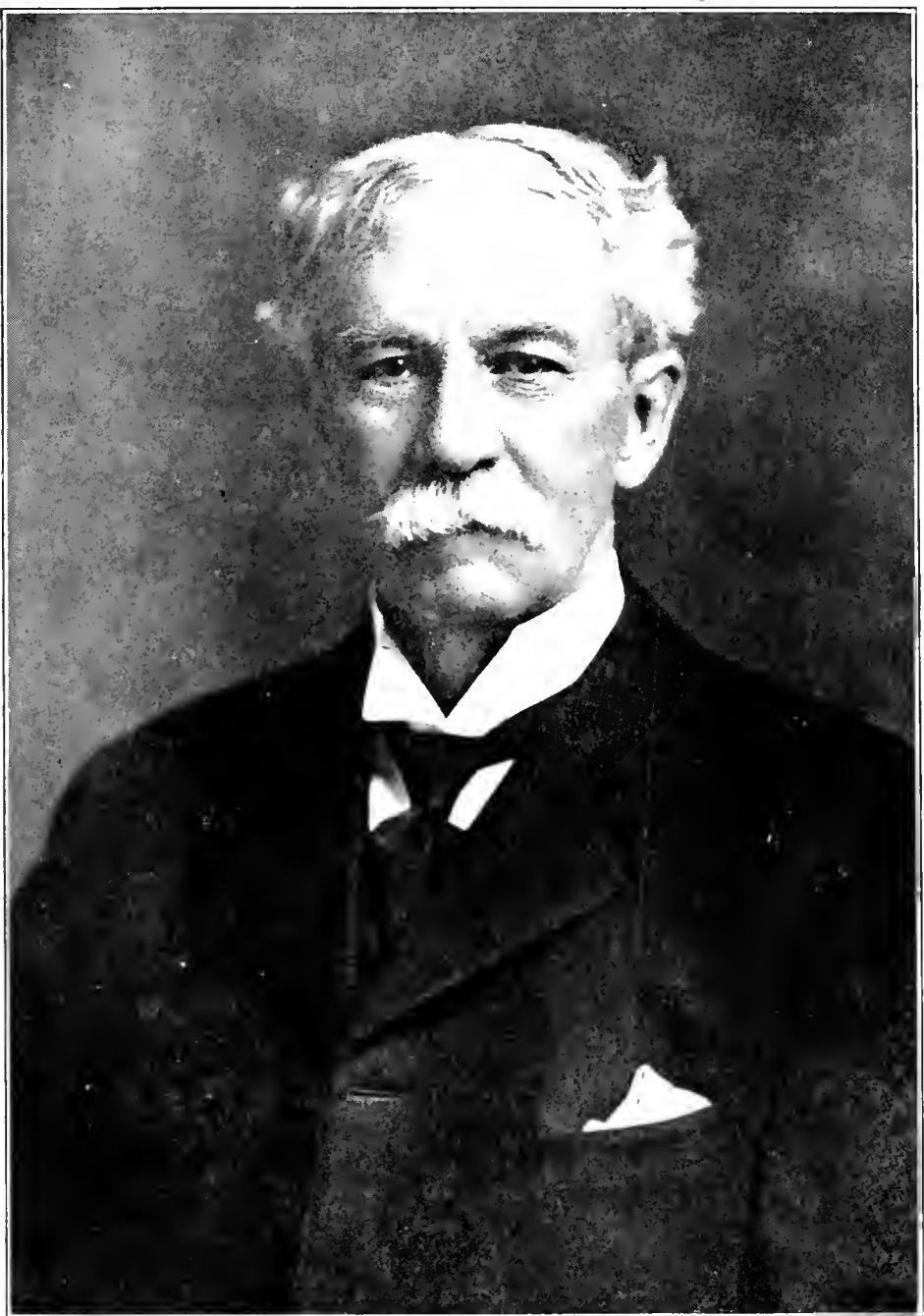
Sometimes people who gaze at a mountain do not realize its height and its greatness because they stand so near it. Sometimes we do not realize the greatness of the men with whom we live in close daily contact. Hiram Edgerton was a great man.

If greatness is in goodness, if it is great when amidst the high places of authority and the temptations of power one maintains unstained honor and integrity, a humility and kindness of spirit, a faith in God and a love for all men, women and children, Hiram Edgerton was a great man. If to be great is to have great visions and then to have courage, faith and common sense and steadfastness to make those ideals come true, then he was great. If to be great is to be a benefactor, if as Jesus said, "He that would be greatest among you must be the servant of all;" if to be great is not to leave behind great wealth merely, but to have millions of men and women coming after you who are happier and better because you have lived, then Hiram H. Edgerton's name is secure in the veneration of the people whom he loved and in the City Beautiful which he built.



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REV. AUGUSTUS HOPKINS STRONG, D. D.

# Rev. Augustus Hopkins Strong, D. D.

AN APPRECIATION presented before a meeting of The Rochester Historical Society, held December 12, 1921, by Edward R. Foreman, representing the Board of Managers:

The Board of Managers of The Rochester Historical Society record the passing of Rev. Augustus Hopkins Strong, D. D., one of the founders of the Society, its first Vice-President and second President.

It is not our purpose to set forth the biographical facts of his illustrious career. These have been fully stated in the press and elsewhere. We speak in appreciation of his character as a citizen and a beloved associate. Only seven weeks ago, he addressed us in reminiscence of his old friend, Henry A. Ward, at which time he spoke with the fire and vigor of youth. With that event in mind it is hard to realize that we shall hear his voice no more.

We celebrate his memory as one of the remarkable men of Rochester. Our city has produced many great scholars, captains of industry and eminent professional men, but never a man of more distinguished intellect. Doctor Strong had a balanced mind, blending will power with intellect and emotion so perfectly as to make him capable of great deeds, great words and great feeling for the service of humanity. His was the perfect culture, adding to the passion for pure knowledge the moral and social passion for doing good, "to make reason and the will of God prevail." It is through such mighty teachers that justice and brotherhood eventually must be established throughout the world, never through one-sided men. His mental energy was tireless. It has been well said of him: "He was a very determined man. He never ambled. He marched."

With the perceiving gift of appreciation he combined the quality of philosophic detachment which gave him perspective to judge men and events of his own times and of all history. He had a true sense of values. He was one of those rare beings who can think, and of the rarer few who can

see. He realized that the wealth and material prosperity of his native city were only factors falling short of the whole; that something finer binds us together, the spirit of Rochester. In the highest degree he possessed that spirit, squared his life with it, and realized aspirations in accord with the best interests of his townsmen. He believed in the city's soul.

Especially we remember the charm of his personality, his keen interest in people and passing events which kept him ever young in feeling. In conversation he was delightful, full of graces and profound learning, always tempered with the winsomeness of whimsical humor. He could easily make and keep friends and across his hospitable threshold men eagerly sought his comradeship. The dearest thing a mortal man may know was freely his, the love of his fellow-men. In every quarter of the civilized world there are students and friends who are mourning him today with sincere affection.

We too, the Board of Managers, bear final witness that he lived as befitted his ancestry: that he endured as the influences about his youth taught him to endure; that he kept the faith: that he achieved the purposes of his life, touching for good all life around him: and at last, without fear, entered through the gates of the Eternal.

He but sleeps the holy sleep. A good man never dies.

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Note: Rev. Augustus Hopkins Strong, D.D., opened the 1921-22 lecture season of The Rochester Historical Society at Catharine Strong Hall, University of Rochester, on October 11, 1921, reviewing the life work of his old friend, Professor Henry A. Ward. This address, together with the memorial of Dr. Strong, has been published separately by the Society.

This was Dr. Strong's last public appearance in Rochester. On that occasion there was no shadow. He was at his best.

Three weeks later he departed for Chicago where he delivered five addresses opening the Wilkinson lectureship established at the Northern Baptist Theological Seminary. He lectured also before the McCormick Theological Seminary and the University of Chicago. On Sunday morning, November 6th, he made a brief Communion day address at the Second Baptist Church of Chicago, thus delivering eight public addresses on varied themes between November 2nd and 10th—a wonderful valedictory!

Resuming his regular winter journey to California in apparently good health, he arrived at Pasadena to be taken suddenly ill, dying November 29th, 1921, at the age of eighty-five.

# Augustus Hopkins Strong

By REV. JOHN H. STRONG, D. D.

Augustus Hopkins Strong was born on Troup Street, near South Washington, on the third of August, eighteen hundred thirty-six. From both his father's and his mother's side he had in him the granite of old New England stock. He had in him also the gentleness and warmth of New England springs and summers. His father, Alvah Strong, was one of Rochester's pioneers. Early proprietor of the "Democrat," a friend of education with a quietness like that of Isaac of old, open-handed, upright, optimistic,—his fragrant memory still lingers among the living. His mother, Catharine Hopkins, was a timid and reticent woman, but gifted, and brought her son color, humor, versatility and charm from a long line of distinguished ancestors. Both father and mother were godly, and furnished a fit home for the nurturing of so purposeful a life.

The child, though not above slips and pranks, was from the first serious-minded and ambitious. His diversions with his younger brother, Henry, later soldier and honored citizen, who in his youth specialized in hair-raising adventures, were more than counterbalanced by rigors of school discipline unknown today and by broadening influences added by his father. He saw a hanging! He listened to "Rochester rappings" furnished by the pretty Fox sisters. He was given an educational trip on the Erie Canal. He learned to set type, keep the accounts, write down market and news reports as they came from the wire, and listened in at that clearing-house of public opinion, the "Democrat" office. He took a surveying-trip. He met Seward and heard the oratory of Webster, Phillips and Gough. He gathered a library, read widely, and, though he keenly felt the inferiority of his preparation to that of the Andover and Exeter men in the classics, entered Yale with the Class of Fifty-seven, versed in literature and history beyond his fellows.

College life was different a half-century ago. Honors were won not so much on the football field as by the oratorical flights and debates of Linonia. Those were the days of James

Hadley, of Dana, and of towering President Woolsey, men not only of accurate and thorough habits but of philosophic breadth, reverent spirit and commanding moral tone. Dr. Strong has often been heard to say that he would not exchange the education of his day, despite its limitations, for the education offered the youth of the present. In Yale he was honored; won prizes, popularity and friendships; quixotically refused Skull-and-Bones as much desired then as now, because a chum had been passed over. Indeed, nothing could swerve him from his loyalties, or usurp the place of Perkins, Holbrook, Wheeler, Holmes, intimates of those "bright college years" whom he held to his heart while life spared them, ever rating the "friendships formed at Yale" as among his most precious possessions and the soul of true education.

It was in the Spring of the Junior year—not under the spreading elms but while at home on a vacation—that the supreme event took place which closed upon this gifted, strong-willed youth all thought of purely literary pursuits and summoned him to a holier calling. It was his conversion. The instrument was Finney,—lawyer, evangelist, eagle-eyed prophet of righteousness,—under whose preaching Rochester was so changed in the thirties and fifties. There was no emotionalism in this religious experience,—just realization, and dogged decision. The satisfying glimpses of truth that afterward made him a radiating center came only gradually and later. Yet it was characteristic of him that this glimmering light was followed. Though he suffered keenly from his consciousness of coldness, he threw his hat into the ring at Yale like one committed to an everlasting loyalty. In the same spirit he returned to Rochester after graduation.—a man, as he felt, without a religious experience, timorously offered himself as a student for the ministry, and to his surprise was accepted.

At the Rochester Seminary the independent spirit and clear-cut thinking of Ezekiel G. Robinson then reigned. Spirits like Riehard and Kingman Nott and William Cleaver Wilkinson were among the student-body. There for the first time the future theologian faced the problems of theology. Sunday afternoons he preached in a schoolhouse at the Rapids to a

tough gang of canal boatmen. The Rapids Church grew out of this work.

The Dr. Strong of mature life was a man of robust health, capable of vast and sustained effort. For years he bore the burdens of teacher, preacher, author and administrator without the aid of dean or secretary. But he did not start so. Before his two years' theological course was over he showed alarming symptoms of pulmonary trouble and was sent abroad for more than a year of travel. Theodore Bacon was a Yale man of a year earlier and became his companion. They followed together the paths of European travel which have since become so familiar. They visited the English lakes and cathedrals. They heard John Caird, Maurice, and Spurgeon. They attended a Handel Festival at the Crystal Palace, where the masterpieces were rendered by the greatest organ in England, an orchestra of a thousand pieces, a chorus of three thousand voices, to an audience of thirty thousand people. The Theodule Pass was crossed, and Italy visited. The winter of 1859 was spent in Berlin, where they took season-tickets for the Philharmonie and the Joachim String Quartet. In the Spring, Strong passed on to Egypt, Palestine and Greece. And in this way began that series of fifteen tours,—twelve of them to Europe, two to Latin America and one to the Far East,—which did so much to inform his mind, enrich his literary productions, and add to his social charm.

Dr. Strong had two pastorates. The first was of four years in Haverhill, Massachusetts. The second was of seven years with the First Baptist Church of Cleveland, Ohio. His early ministry was an experience of intense struggle. A little book of his, "Union with Christ," tells how light came and relieved his darkness. Both pastorates showed him, as his teaching always did, advanced and constructive. In Cleveland he came to realize God as the God of Nature, and took up in succession the study of the sciences,—Geology, Mineralogy, Botany, Chemistry, Meteorology. Professor Henry A. Ward helped him to make an excellent collection of three hundred rocks, minerals and fossils to which he always pointed with pride. He always worked toward an end. During the Cleve-

land pastorate he preached every second Sunday of the month on a great doctrine of the church, adapting it to a fifteen-year-old boy's intelligence and accompanying it with a wealth of illustration,—sermons which were ready to serve as the basis of his lectures when in 1872 he came to Rochester to teach theology.

Dr. Strong returned to Rochester in 1872. He found the Seminary in debt, meagerly equipped, and not even paying the professors' salaries. Its students were ill-prepared. When he retired after forty years it was in many respects the foremost Baptist theological seminary of the world. As a teacher he was probably unsurpassed by any theologian of his time. For his text-book he produced his "Systematic Theology." One has called it "the greatest compendium and reference-book of theology ever penned." One must look into it to get a faint idea of the wealth of historical, scientific, artistic and literary knowledge it contains. Yet, although he has been called "the master-mechanic of theology," one can glimpse in his "Hundred Chapel Talks," taken down at random by some short-hand student in the noon prayer-meetings, what a vivifying power he was in the life of an institution where staleness and technique are such menaces to the spirit.

There was a reason for this. Dr. Strong's theology was vital. It had been given him gradually in illuminated moments of experience. It was the ordered summing-up of what he had seen and heard. It was biblical, because in the Bible he found what he had felt and discovered reflected, explained and foretold. The God who moves the sphere had spoken to him, and this made him spiritually and intellectually free. He delighted early to claim a true evolution as Science's reading of God's method; and his books, "Ethical Monism" and "Christ in Creation," were attempts to set forth his deep sense of the intimacies of God with his world. Such views gave imposing dignity to his views of the Savior. The Gospel was truly the sum of all wisdom, and faith the supreme act of obedience and reason in man.

His was a catholic spirit. While devoted to his church, he was too alive to the things Christians hold in common to be a

denominationalist. Yet this did not hinder him from setting his church ahead by the conception and planning of great educational enterprises. Such was his carefully wrought out effort to secure the founding in New York City of a great Christian university, to be the gift to the world of Baptists. The steps by which he sought to interest in this project the beneficence of Mr. Rockefeller, all the details having by the labor of years been worked out by the study of urban conditions and university development abroad, even to the selection of the site of Morningside Heights, afterwards occupied by Columbia University, are matters of careful record. The University was established, not in New York, but in Chicago. The name most prominently connected with it, next to that of its founder, is that of the late President Harper, whom Dr. Strong had selected, introduced to Mr. Rockefeller, and made the custodian of his ideas. Though the change of location seemed to Dr. Strong a strategic blunder and was a grave disappointment, justice was publicly done him when Mr. Gates, as Mr. Rockefeller's representative, reading in Philadelphia the Report of the American Baptist Education Society, in that Report and on Mr. Rockefeller's authority, attributed to him the first plan and conception of a great Baptist University.

Though unquestionably immensely gifted. Dr. Strong nevertheless owed so much of his really remarkable attainment to method and tenacity of purpose, that the closer view of his life gives a lesson of great value, more impressive the more it is studied. He never wasted a moment. His earlier life was one of unremitting struggle. His industry was enormous, yet so applied to the point of advantage, that everything in his life was balanced, ordered, serene and unhurried. He reserved time for family letters, for calling, and the Clubs for which he kept an apparently abundant leisure. His very exercise was methodical. Seminary students said humorously that they set their watches by his morning walk to the barber-shop. There was always time for every church meeting, to which he invariably walked. His memory seemed infallible. He made the impression of never forgetting any book or any man. For years he unofficially placed men in pulpits with no other aid

than memory. Perhaps his great modesty tended to mislead one, for so at home did he seem in the random discussion of any book, event or man, that one was in danger of losing sight of the full range of his achievement.

Work in prospect was finished long in advance of the occasion. Nothing was done capriciously, but fell into a well-ordered plan. His summer vacations produced in succession the literary studies presented at the lenten meetings of the Browning Club,—then pigeonholed to emerge as “The Great Poets and Their Theology,” and to be followed by “The American Poets.” His life was kept free from clutter as his desk always was, by system. His self-discipline was unremitting, yet so unobtrusive that habit never seemed to tyrannize over him when circumstances interrupted, for there seemed always new sets of resources ready to come into play. His hospitality was ample and leisurely. He entertained every student of the seminary at his table once a year: the Guest Book of the last twenty-five years of the President’s house holds almost ten thousand names; yet he had time to make himself a scholar in Hebrew, Greek and Latin, in German, French and Italian. In Germany he preached in German: in France in 1920 he gave in French three sermons and addresses which he had written and perfected the winter before. His graciousness, courtesy and humor, which were so peculiarly charming to his friends, were for his household exactly as for outsiders; his children were conversed with and drawn into talk with the same tact which he used with the shy student, and those who served him were treated with a distinction which always stimulated their best. Home authority was unquestioned, yet there was never severity. Rebukes were implied rather than administered, and in every contact one who thought below the surface realized that he had first of all mastered himself.

Dr. Strong did not grow old, but retained his mental grasp and the freshness of his interests to the day of his death. The years following his retirement from the presidency of the Seminary at the age of seventy-six were years of unhindered productiveness. Half a dozen books came from his pen. His ripened powers were permitted their full expression even in the

last month of his life, when he delivered in Chicago seven lectures,—at McCormick Theological Seminary, the Northern Baptist Theological Seminary, and at the University of Chicago. On Sunday morning, November sixth, he was prevailed upon to make the Communion Day address at the Second Baptist Church in Chicago. On November 28th, the day before his death, eighty-five years old, he dictated the last words of his new “Primer of Christian Theology.”

He was a citizen of the world, yet he belongs to Rochester. Here he was born. Here the supreme change of life overtook him. Here he did his greatest work. Rochester’s lasting names are the list of his friendships; Rochester’s ideals in no small part the story of what he has been. Early in life he received from his father the solemn charge of family solidarity and passed it on to his children. It was but part of his wider loyalty to church and school, to home and friends, to native place, to all that he held dear. Above his hearth-stone are words that remain though he is gone and faithfully describe him:

“True to the kindred points of heaven  
and home.”



**CHRONOLOGICAL  
LIST OF PAPERS READ  
BEFORE  
THE ROCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



# Chronological List of Papers

*Read before The Rochester Historical Society*

1888—April 6. First paper at Mrs. Perkins', by Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker, on John Galt's novel, "Laurie Todd," (1828), the scene of which was laid in part in the village of Rochester and other localities in the Genesee Valley.

1888—June 14. "The Opening of the Genesee Country," by Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker.

1888—June 14. "Memorial of Gen. A. W. Riley," by Henry E. Rochester.

1888—November 30. "Early Days in Rochester; Riparian Rights Along the Genesee River," by Henry E. Rochester.

1888—November 30. "Mary Jemison, the White Woman of the Genesee," by Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker.

1889—January 4. "Three Episodes in the History of the Genesee Valley," by George Moss.

1889—January 4. "The One-Hundred-Acre Tract," written by Henry E. Rochester; read by Miss Jennie Rochester.

1889—February 1. "History and Description of the Genesee River and Western New York," by Henry E. Rochester.

1889—April 5. "The Phelps and Gorham Purchase with Special Reference to the City of Rochester," by Howard L. Osgood.

1889—April 5. "The Union League (March, 1863)," by Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker.

1889—May 3. "Rochester in Ancient History," by Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker.

1889—June 13. "Memorial, of Henry E. Rochester," by Judge James L. Angle.

1889—June 13. "Memorial, Poetical Tribute, to Henry E. Rochester," by Mrs. C. M. Curtis.

1889—June 13. "The Aboriginal History of the Genesee Country and Its Terminology," by Mr. George H. Harris.

1889—June 13. "The Work Accomplished by Other His-

torical Societies in the United States," by Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker.

1889—November 9. "Pioneers of the Genesee Valley—the Markhams," by Mr. George H. Harris.

1889—November 9. "The Artist Spy," written by Mr. George H. Ely; read by Mrs. Seth H. Terry.

1889—November 9. "Colonial Laws of 1664," by Judge James L. Angle.

1889—December 13. Poem, "Gleanings," (on the progress of the city), by Mrs. Katherine J. Dowling.

1889—December 13. "Biographical Sketch of the late Henry E. Peck, Minister to Hayti," by Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker.

1890—January 10. "Reminiscences of Rochester from 1817 to 1830," by Dr. F. DeW. Ward, Geneseo, N. Y. Supplemental Reminiscences, by Dr. Augustus H. Strong.

1890—February 14. "The Public Schools of Rochester," by S. A. Ellis.

1890—March 14. "Biographical Sketch of the Late Dr. Chester Dewey," by Mrs. C. M. Curtis.

1890—March 14. "Music in Rochester," by Mr. Herve D. Wilkins.

1890—April 7. "The Antiquities of Mt. Hope," by Judge James L. Angle.

1890—April 7. Mrs. Gerard Arink recited a poem prepared by Elihu Spencer at the time of the dedication of Mt. Hope.

1890—April 7. "The Last Indian Sacrifice," written by the late Seth H. Terry; read by Mrs. Seth H. Terry.

1890—May 9. "Transportation in the Early Days of Western New York," by Mr. George Moss.

1890—June 13. "Memorial of Mrs. M. B. Anderson," by Mrs. Emil Knichling.

1890—November 14. "Rochester's First Things," by Dr. F. DeW. Ward.

1890—December 12. "The Story of the Massacre at Cherry Valley," by Mrs. William S. Little.

1891—January 9. "The Hundred-Acre Tract," by Mr. Howard L. Osgood.

1891—February 13. “Interviewing a Statesman,” (Henry Clay), by Charles E. Fitch.

1891—February 13. “Early Experiences in Western New York; and Indian Traditions of Bare Hill, Near Canandaigua,” by Judge T. M. Howell.

1891—March 13. “Reminiscences of Mrs. Hiram Blanchard,” by Mr. Charles H. Wiltsie.

1891—March 13. “Recollections of Early Rochester,” by Col. Josiah W. Bissell.

1891—March 13. “Facts as to the Daily American and Leonard W. Jerome,” by William F. Peck.

1891—April 10. “The Geology of the Region of the Genesee River,” by Prof. Herman LeRoy Fairchild, of the University of Rochester.

1891—April 10. “Early Reminiscences,” written by Col. J. W. Bissell, and read by Charles E. Fitch.

1891—May 8. “Memorial of Judge James L. Angle,” by Dr. Augustus H. Strong.

1891—May 8. “Report as to Enos Stone’s House, the First Frame Building in Rochester,” by Clinton Rogers.

1891—November 13. “The Story of the Rochester Parks,” by Dr. Edward Mott Moore, Sr.

1891—December 11. “Old East Avenue,” by George H. Humphrey.

1891—December 11. “Reminiscences of Mrs. Eliza M. Reid, the Widow of Dr. W. W. Reid” by Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker.

1892—January 8. “The Magic of a Voice,” (on the subject of the Finney revivals), by Mr. Harold Pomeroy Brewster.

1892—February 12. “Rochester in the Forties,” by Dr. Porter Farley.

1892—March 11. “Memorial of Mrs. C. M. Curtis,” by Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker.

1892—March 11. “Edwin Scranton,” prepared by Mrs. Bertha Scranton Pool and read by Charles E. Fitch; also a poem by same author entitled, “The Old Log Cabin to Powers Block.”

1892—March 11. “Henry Clay’s First Visit to Rochester in 1836,” by Ira L. Otis.

1892—March 11. “Early Reminiscences of Rochester,” prepared by Mrs. Mary B. Allen King (93 years old), and read by Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker.

1892—April 8. “Corn Hill in the Old Third Ward,” prepared by George H. Harris and read by Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker.

1892—April 8. “The Flood of 1865,” prepared by Mrs. Melissa M. Farrar; read by Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker.

1892—May 13. “The Struggle for Monroe County,” by Howard L. Osgood.

1892—November 11. “Gov. Blacksnake,” by James G. Johnson, of Salamanca.

1892—November 11. “The Early Bar of Rochester,” including a sketch of the life of his father, Judge Harvey Humphrey, by George H. Humphrey.

1892—December 9. “The Jesuit Relations,” by Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker.

1892—December 9. “Reminiscences of Miss Araminta Doolittle and the Rochester Female Academy,” by Mrs. Alice Hopkins.

1893—January 13. “The Old Steamboat Hotel,” by Pomeroy P. Dickinson.

1893—January 13. “A Letter of Reminiscences,” written by Mrs. Marietta McCracken Langworthy; read by President Charles E. Fitch.

1893—February 10. “A Princey and Unknown Exile in America,” by Henry C. Maine.

1893—March 10. “Niagara—Its Poets,” by Frank H. Severance, of Buffalo.

1893—March 10. “Behind the Scenes,” (relating to the Historical Entertainment given for the benefit of the Society) by Mrs. Sarah Gay Galusha.

1893—April 20. “Reminiscences of the Early Settlement of Riga, Monroe County,” by Mrs. Horace Gay.

1893—April 20. Annual Address by President Charles E. Fitch.

1893—May 12. “The Early Days of Brockport,” by Mrs. Mary J. Holmes.

1893—May 12. “Roehester’s First Board of Trade,” by Erastus Darrow.

1893—November 10. “Red Jaeket,” by Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker.

1893—November 10. “Sketch of George H. Harris,” prepared by Howard L. Osgood; read by President Charles E. Fitch.

1893—December 8. “The Early History of Sodus,” by Prof. L. H. Clark of Sodus.

1893—December 8. “Reminiscenes of Rochester from 1820 to 1830,” by Jesse W. Hatch.

1894—January 12. “Climatology of Western New York,” by Arthur L. White.

1894—February 9. “The Clover Street Seminary,” by Joseph B. Bloss.

1894—March 9. “Amusements in Early Rochester,” by George M. Elwood.

1894—April 13. “Rochester, Its Founders and Its Founding,” by Howard L. Osgood.

1894—April 13. “Elisha Johnson,” prepared by William F. Peek; read by Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker.

1894—May 18. “A Vision of Seventy Years,” by William W. Mumford.

1894—November 9. “The Old-Time Shoemaker and Shoemaking,” by Jesse W. Hatch.

1895—January 11. “The Sons of the American Revolution,” by Edward G. Miner, Jr.

1895—January 11. “The Daughters of the American Revolution,” by Mrs. R. A. Sibley.

1895—January 11. “The Colonial Dames,” by Mrs. E. B. Angell.

1895—March 8. “The Twenty-Thousand-Acre Tract and Gideon King,” by Moses B. King.

1895—April 19. “The Old Third Ward,” by Charles F. Pond.

1895—April 19. “Bull’s Head,” prepared by George W. Fisher; read by Miss Jane E. Rochester.

1895—April 19. “Memorial of Miss Elizabeth P. Hall,” prepared by James H. Kelly; read by Charles H. Wiltsie.

1895—May 24. “The Caneadea Reservation and Some Upper Genesee Indians,” by John S. Minard of Fillmore.

1895—November 8. “Mary Jemison,” prepared by F. VanDorn, of Mt. Morris; read by Howard L. Osgood.

1895—November 8. “Architecture of Rochester. New and Old,” by Frederick W. Warner.

1896—January 10. “Notes on Seneca Indians, and on John Greig and Others,” by Mrs. William Chappell.

1896—January 10. “A Panorama of Early Days in Rochester,” prepared by Mrs. E. J. Varney: read by Miss Anderson.

1896—January 10. “Reasons of the British Failure to Deliver Up the Frontier Forts till 1796,” by Howard L. Osgood.

1896—March 13. “Augustus Porter, a Pioneer of Western New York,” by Charles M. Robinson.

1896—May 8. “The Rochester Orphan Asylum,” by Mrs. William Chappell.

1896—May 8. “Extracts from the Diary of Mr. Langslow, 1817,” read by Howard L. Osgood.

1896—May 8. “Biography of Capt. Basil Hall, and His Visit to Rochester, 1827,” by President George M. Elwood.

1896—November 13. “Local Antiquarian Researches,” by Samuel P. Moulthrop.

1897—January 8. “The Ice Age in Monroe County,” by Dr. Porter Farley.

1897—March 12. “The Court Houses of Monroe County,” prepared by H. W. Conklin: read by Adelbert Cronise.

1897—May 14. “Ga-o-ya-de-o and O-wa-is-ki,” by John S. Minard.

1897—November 12. “Western New York in the Colonial Period,” by Samuel P. Moulthrop.

1898—January 14. “Sullivan’s Campaign,” by Simon L. Adler.

1898—January 24. Formal addresses of congratulation

and eulogy were offered by Dr. Augustus H. Strong, and Prof. W. C. Morey, and informal remarks by E. R. Andrews, Dr. Porter Farley, and Franklin S. Hanford, in honor of Dr. Edward Mott Moore, the first President of the Society. Address by Dr. Moore describing the changes in Rochester since his advent.

1898—February 11. “*Soldiers of the Revolution,*” by Mrs. William Chappell.

1898—March 14. “*The Autobiography of Samuel Miles Hopkins,*” by Dr. Augustus H. Strong.

1898—May 9. “*The One Hundred and Fortieth Regiment in the Battle of the Wilderness,*” by Dr. Porter Farley.

1898—November 14. “*Experiences in the Spanish War as Executive Officer on Board U. S. Ship Peoria,*” by William G. David.

1899—January 9. “*The Niagara Frontier,*” by Hon. Peter A. Porter of Niagara Falls.

1899—March 13. “*Early Military Companies of Rochester,*” by Jesse W. Hatch.

1899—May 8. “*Rochester in the Forties,*” by Geo. E. Slocum, of Scottsville.

1899—November 13. “*A Trip Through the Konesaghs (Conesus) Country,*” by Samuel P. Moulthrop.

1900—January 8. “*Money and Money Units in the American Colonies,*” by Simon L. Adler.

1900—March 12. “*Reminiscences of Enos Stone,*” by William Talmadge Stone.

1900—May 14. “*The British Evacuation of the United States,*” by Howard L. Osgood.

1900—November 12. “*Montresor on the Niagara,*” by Frank H. Severance.

1901—January 14. “*Goat Island,*” by Hon. Peter A. Porter, of Niagara Falls.

1901—March 11. “*Recollections of Andersonville Prison,*” by Dr. Rob Roy Converse.

1901—May 13. “*A King of France in Central New York,*” by Adelbert Cronise.

1901—November 11. “*Who Discovered the Genesee Riv-*

er?" "Correspondence of Col. Rochester," and "Indian Allan," by Howard L. Osgood.

1902—January 13. "Old Colonial China," by Mrs. Frederick W. Yates.

1902—March 10. "Memorial of Dr. Edward Mott Moore, Sr.," by William F. Peck.

1902—March 10. "Old Carthage," by Mrs. Horace B. Hooker.

1902—May 12. "Proposed Division of Indian Lands on the Cattaraugus Reservation," by Hon. John Van Voorhis.

1903—March 9. "The Early Police of Rochester," by William F. Peck.

1903—May 11. "The Deaf Mute Institute," by Prof. Zenas F. Westervelt.

1904—January 11. "The Female Charitable Society," by Mrs. Oscar Craig.

1904—March 14. "Robert Morris," by George Chandler Bragdon.

1904—May 9. "John Jay, Patriot, Jurist and Statesman," by George Alfred Stringer, of Buffalo.

1904—November 14. "Early Settlers by the Falls of the Genesee," by Mrs. Katherine J. Dowling.

1904—November 14. "The Genesee," a poem read by John G. Allen.

1905—January 9. "Sanitary Control of the City's Water Supply," by Prof. C. W. Dodge, of the University of Rochester.

1905—January 9. "The Genesee Valley in the Navy," by Rear-Admiral Franklin S. Hanford.

1905—March 13. "Rambles About Rochester," by Nathaniel S. Olds.

1905—May 8. "Sullivan's Campaign," by William Elliot Griffis.

1905—November 13. "The Patriotism of Western New York," by Hon. Peter A. Porter, of Niagara Falls.

1905—December 11. "Sir William Johnson," by Hon. Hugh Hastings, State Historian.

1906—February 12. "Totiaktton, the Metropolis of the Senecas," by Nathaniel S. Olds.

1906—May 10. “Memorial of George May Elwood,” by William F. Peck.

1906—May 7. “The First Presbyterian Church of Rochester,” by Rev. George D. Miller, D. D.

1907—January 29. Recitations of humorous stories in the negro dialect interspersed with songs, by Miss Finch.

1907—March 4. “Difficulties Attending the Organization of Monroe County,” by Willis K. Gillette.

1907—April 16. Recitation of “Hiawatha,” by Miss Mabel Powers.

1907—May 27. “Chateaubriand and the Genesee Valley,” by Frank H. Severance, Secretary of the Buffalo Historical Society.

1907—November 11. “The Courts and Bar of Monroe County,” by John H. Hopkins.

1908—January 14. “Development of Civic Beauty,” by Charles M. Robinson.

1908—March 6. “Indian Folk-Lore, Oratory and Romance of the Genesee Country,” reading by Miss Mabel Powers.

1908—December 1. “France in the Revolutionary War,” by the Hon. James Breck Perkins.

1909—January 5. “Historical Sketch of Music in Rochester,” by Richard H. Lansing.

1909—March 2. “Memorial of William F. Peck,” by William H. Samson.

1909—March 2. “The Repeal of the Stamp Act,” by Ernest R. Clarke.

1912—September 13. “The Rochester Historical Society,” Addresses by Henry W. Morgan, Frank H. Severance, Doctor Rush Rhees and William F. Yust, upon the occasion of the formal opening of the Society’s Museum at Exposition Park.

1913—March 27. “Memorial of Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker,” by Edward R. Foreman.

1914—January 19. “Indian Life and Customs in the Great Northwest.” Lantern talk by Fred R. Meyer.

1914—April 27. “History of Music in Rochester,” by Richard H. Lansing.

1914—June 25. Rev. Paul Moore Strayer, Elmer Adler and Prof. Charles D. Vail gave addresses on the subject of “Mary Jemison.”

1914—November 27. “The Larger Meaning of the War,” by Prof. Franklin H. Giddings, of Columbia University.

1914—December 15. “Rochester’s Geological History,” by Prof. Herman Leroy Fairchild, of the University of Rochester.

1915—January 19. “Reminiscences of Persons and Places in Early Rochester,” by Charles F. Pond.

1915—February 22. “A Gentleman in Politics,” (Washington), by President Rush Rhees of the University of Rochester.

1915—March 22. “Reminiscences of John Sylvester Wilson from May, 1822,” read by Frederick M. Whitney, Mr. Wilson being present in person, one hundred years of age, March 20, 1915.

1915—June 7. “Colonial Architecture in the Genesee Valley,” by Claude Bragdon.

1915—November 29. “A Sketch of the Life of Lewis Henry Morgan, with Personal Reminiscences,” by Dr. Charles A. Dewey.

1915—November 29. “Lewis Henry Morgan, Scientist, Philosopher, Humanist,” by Algernon Sidney Crapsey.

1915—December 27. “Reminiscences of Early Rochester,” by Rev. Augustus Hopkins Strong, D. D.

1916—March 27. “Annual Address,” by President Edward R. Foreman.

1916—March 27. “The Municipal Museum and The Rochester Historical Society,” by Curator Edward D. Putnam.

1916—April 28. “Rochester’s Contribution to the Twentieth Century,” by Prof. Laurence Bradford Packard, of the University of Rochester.

1916—May 26. “Rochester’s Public Schools,” by Miss Katherine E. Coombs.

1916—May 26. “The Rochester City Club,” by Clarence T. Leighton.

1916—October 27. “Reminiscences of Anti-Slavery Days,”

by Horace McGuire. Through Mr. McGuire's thoughtful generosity this paper had been printed and copies were distributed to members of the audience at the close of the meeting. "Concerning Rochester," by Mrs. Frank F. Dow.

1916—November 27. "Colonel Nathaniel Rochester and the One-Hundred-Acre Tract," by Mrs. William Chappell.

1916—December 28. "The Historie and Prehistoric Indians of Western New York," illustrated with lantern slides and maps, by Arthur C. Parker, Archaeologist of New York State.

1917—March 3. "The Origin and Development of the National Emblem of the United States of America," illustrated with lantern slides, by John White Johnston.

1917—April 30. "Some Reminiseences of the Civil War," by Colonel Samuel C. Pierce. "Some Practical Problems confronting the American People Today as a Result of the War," by Jasper H. Wright.

1917—October 29. "The Relation of Historical and Patriotic Societies to the present World Crisis," by Dr. James Sullivan, Director of the Division of Archives and History, New York State Department of Education.

1918—April 15. "The Grandest Playground in the World," by Dr. Rossiter Johnson. This paper dealing with the City of Rochester was printed and sent to all members of the Society and to all organizations on the exchange list.

1918—April 26. Annual Address of President Edward R. Foreman and reports of officers. Printed and sent to all the members of the Society.

1919—January 29. "The Indians of Western New York and their Influence on Civilization," by Dr. Sherman Williams.

1919—February 28. "The Evolution of the British Labor Situation," by Prof. Justin W. Nixon, of Rochester Theological Seminary.

1919—March 11. "The Beginnings of Geology in Rochester," illustrated with lantern slides, by Prof. George H. Chadwick, of the University of Rochester.

1919—April 25. "The Mansion House of our first Mayor, Jonathan Child," by Samuel Moore.

1919—December 1. “Some Personal Experiences of an Editor,” by Prof. Burgess Johnson, of Vassar College.

1920—January 8. “Tories and Loyalists in New York during the American Revolution,” by Prof. Alexander C. Flick, of Syracuse University.

1920—February 12. “Lincoln’s Message to the Present Generation,” by Dr. James Sullivan, State Historian.

1920—March 11. “Recent Information relating to the Holland Land Purchase,” by Prof. Paul D. Evans, of Syracuse University.

1920—October 6. “The History of Printing,” by Henry Lewis Bullen.

1920—October 20. “Pilgrim Fathers,” illustrated with lantern slides, by William Webster Ellsworth.

1920—November 16. “Scenic and Historic Sites of the Empire State,” by Dr. Edward Hageman Hall, illustrated with lantern slides.

1921—January 14. “France as I found it in 1920,” by Frank H. Severance, Secretary of the Buffalo Historical Society.

1921—February 4. “The Writing of French History in America,” by Professor Charles Homer Haskins, of Harvard University.

1921—April 12. “Exploration in China, illustrated with lantern slides, by Frederick G. Clapp, formerly of Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

1921—May 3. “What Shall We Do to Hand Down the History of Monroe County’s Part in the World War,” by Doctor James Sullivan, New York State Historian.

1921—May 26. At Letchworth Park, “The Genesee Country Historical Federation,” by Edward R. Foreman. Published in the Proceedings of the Letchworth Memorial Association, 1922.

1921—October 11. “Henry A. Ward—Reminiscence and Appreciation,” by Rev. Augustus H. Strong, D. D.

1921—November 14. “Rochester—Backgrounds of Its History,” by Raymond H. Arnot.

1921—December 12. “The Ancient People of Chaco

Canyon, New Mexico," by Dr. Edgar L. Hewitt, Director of the Museum at Santa Fe.

1922—January 8. "The City of Tryon and Vicinity," by A. Emerson Babcock.

1922—February 13. "The Western Door of the Long House," by Hon. Lockwood R. Doty, County Judge and Surrogate, Livingston county.

1922—March 13. "Rochester in Literature," by Dr. Rossiter Johnson.

1922—April 24. "Picturesque Rochester," by Edward S. Siebert, illustrated by a large group of original drawings and etchings.

1922—May 26. At Letchworth Park, "Courage," by Hon. Charles E. Ogden; "The Genesee Country in the United States Supreme Court," by Edward R. Foreman. Published in the Proceedings of the Letchworth Memorial Association, 1922.

1922—June 10 and 17. Field Meetings at the Indian Landing, "The Landing Road," by A. Emerson Babcock.

1922—September 16. Joint meeting of The Rochester Bar Association and The Rochester Historical Society in honor of the Pioneers of Rochester, held in the Monroe County Court House for the erection of bronze tablet to John Mastick, Esq. Addresses, "The Pioneers and the Law," by Hon. George A. Carnahan, President of The Rochester Bar Association; "The Life and Times of John Mastick, Pioneer Lawyer of Rochester," by Hon. John D. Lynn, United States Marshal.

1922—November 4. "Historic Traces in New York," by Dr. Frank Bergen Kelley, of the City History Club of New York.

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Note as to Published Papers:—Volume I, of the Publications of The Rochester Historical Society (1892) contains the following printed papers:

"Notes on the Aboriginal Terminology of the Genesee Country," by George H. Harris, read before the Society, June 13, 1889.

"History of the Title of the Phelps and Gorham Purchase," by Howard L. Osgood, read before the Society, April 5, 1889.

"Three Episodes in the History of the Genesee Valley," by George Moss, read before the Society, January 4, 1889.

"The Opening of the Genesee Country," by Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker, read before the Society, June 14, 1888.

"The Genesee River and Western New York," by Henry E. Rochester, read before the Society, February 1, 1889.

"History of the Public Schools of the City of Rochester," by S. A. Ellis, read before the Society, February 14, 1890.

"Music in Rochester," by Herve D. Wilkins, read before the Society, March 14, 1890.

Volume I, also contains the following Memorial Sketches: "Henry E. Rochester," by Jane E. Rochester; "Henry O'Reilly," by Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker; "Dr. Chester Dewey," by C. M. Curtis; "Gen. A. W. Riley," by a Committee, Henry E. Rochester, Frederick A. Whittlesey and Charles E. Fitch; "Henry E. Peek," by Charles E. Fitch; "Hiram Sibley" by Charles E. Fitch; "Judge James Lansing Angle," by William F. Peek.

Volume II, of the Publications of The Rochester Historical Society (1898) contains the following paper: "Sketch of the Public and Private Life of Samuel Miles Hopkins, of Salem, Connecticut," written by himself, and commented upon by Rev. Augustus Hopkins Strong, D.D.; read before the Society, March 14, 1898.

Some of the papers read before the Society have appeared in full in the local newspapers and some have been issued as separate pamphlets. The more important papers will be printed at some time in the volumes of the Publication Fund Series.

**OFFICERS OF THE ROCHESTER  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
SINCE ORGANIZATION**



# Officers of The Rochester Historical Society Since Organization

Elected March 3, 1888—President, Edward Mott Moore. Vice-President, Augustus Hopkins Strong. Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker. Recording Secretary, William F. Peck. Treasurer, Gilman H. Perkins. Librarian, Herman K. Phinney.

Elected April 5, 1889—President, Edward Mott Moore. Vice-President, Augustus Hopkins Strong. Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker. Recording Secretary, William F. Peck. Treasurer, Gilman H. Perkins. Librarian, Herman K. Phinney.

Elected April 7, 1890—President, Rev. Augustus Hopkins Strong, D. D. Vice-President, Judge James Lansing Angle. Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker. Recording Secretary, William F. Peck. Treasurer, Gilman H. Perkins. Librarian, Adelbert Cronise.

Elected April 10, 1891—President, Hon. James Lansing Angle. Vice-President, Gilman H. Perkins. Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker. Recording Secretary, William F. Peck. Treasurer, Charles H. Wiltsie. Librarian, Howard L. Osgood.

Note:—Judge Angle died May 4, 1891. Gilman H. Perkins declined to serve as Vice-President, and his resignation was accepted May 10, 1891. To fill these vacancies, on May 10, 1891. Rev. Augustus Hopkins Strong, D.D., was elected President and Charles E. Fitch, Vice-President, for the ensuing year.

Elected April 8, 1892—President, Charles E. Fitch. Vice-President, William C. Morey. Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker. Recording Secretary, William F. Peck. Treasurer, Charles H. Wiltsie. Librarian, Howard L. Osgood.

Note:—Mr. Osgood resigned as librarian, May 13, 1892, and on November 11, 1892, Miss Jane E. Rochester was elected to take his place.

Elected April 20, 1893—President, Charles E. Fitch. Vice-

President William C. Morey. Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker. Recording Secretary, William F. Peck. Treasurer, Charles H. Wiltsie. Librarian, Miss Jane E. Rochester.

Elected April 13, 1894—President, John H. Rochester. Vice-President, Frank W. Elwood. Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker. Recording Secretary, William F. Peck. Treasurer, Charles H. Wiltsie. Librarian, Miss Jane E. Rochester.

Elected April 19, 1895—President, John H. Rochester. Vice-President, Frank W. Elwood. Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker. Recording Secretary, William F. Peck. Treasurer, Charles H. Wiltsie. Librarian, Miss Jane E. Rochester.

Note:—Mrs. Jane Marsh Parker resigned from the office of Corresponding Secretary, October 10, 1895, and Adelbert Cronise was elected to fill the vacancy, November 8, 1895.

Elected March 13, 1896—President, George M. Elwood. Vice-President, Howard L. Osgood. Corresponding Secretary, Adelbert Cronise. Recording Secretary, William F. Peck. Treasurer, Charles H. Wiltsie. Librarian, Miss Jane E. Rochester.

Elected March 12, 1897—President, George M. Elwood. Vice-President, Howard L. Osgood. Corresponding Secretary, Adelbert Cronise. Recording Secretary, William F. Peck. Treasurer, Charles H. Wiltsie. Librarian, Miss Jane E. Rochester.

Elected March 14, 1898—President, Porter Farley. Vice-President, Gilman H. Perkins. Corresponding Secretary, Adelbert Cronise. Recording Secretary, William F. Peck. Treasurer, George M. Elwood. Librarian, Miss Jane E. Rochester.

Elected March 13, 1899—President, Porter Farley. Vice-President, Ezra R. Andrews. Corresponding Secretary, Adelbert Cronise. Recording Secretary, William F. Peck. Treasurer, George M. Elwood. Librarian, Miss Jane E. Rochester.

Elected May 14, 1900—President, Adelbert Cronise. Vice-

President, E. H. Howard. Corresponding Secretary, Howard L. Osgood. Recording Secretary, William F. Peck. Treasurer, George M. Elwood. Librarian, Miss Jane E. Rochester.

Elected May 13, 1901—President, Adelbert Cronise. Vice-President, E. H. Howard. Corresponding Secretary, Howard L. Osgood. Recording Secretary, William F. Peck. Treasurer, George M. Elwood. Librarian, Miss Jane E. Rochester.

Elected May 12, 1902—President, E. H. Howard. Vice-President, Clinton Rogers. Corresponding Secretary, Howard L. Osgood. Recording Secretary, William F. Peck. Treasurer, George M. Elwood. Librarian, Miss Jane E. Rochester.

1903—(No Election. Officers of Previous Year Holding Over.) President, E. H. Howard. Vice-President, Clinton Rogers. Corresponding Secretary, Howard L. Osgood. Recording Secretary, William F. Peck. Treasurer, George M. Elwood. Librarian, Miss Jane E. Rochester.

Elected March 14, 1904—President, William H. Samson. Vice-President, Clinton Rogers. Corresponding Secretary, Howard L. Osgood. Recording Secretary, William F. Peck. Treasurer, George M. Elwood. Librarian, Miss Jane E. Rochester.

Elected March 13, 1905—President, William H. Samson. Vice-President, Clinton Rogers. Corresponding Secretary, Nathaniel S. Olds. Recording Secretary, William F. Peck. Treasurer, George M. Elwood.

Note:—March 25, 1905, Miss Jean Gilman was appointed Librarian. Miss Gilman resigned, March, 1906, and Miss Grant was appointed to fill the vacancy. March 25, 1905, Nathaniel S. Olds, Corresponding Secretary, volunteered to classify and arrange the exhibits as Curator.

Elected March 12, 1906—President Clinton Rogers. Vice-President, Edward G. Miner. Corresponding Secretary, Nathaniel S. Olds. Recording Secretary, William F. Peck. Treasurer, George M. Elwood.

Note:—May 7, 1906, J. Vincent Alexander was elected Treasurer to fill the vacancy caused by the death of George M. Elwood.

Elected March 4, 1907—President, Clinton Rogers. Vice-President, Edward G. Miner. Corresponding Secretary, Na-

thaniel S. Olds. Recording Secretary, William F. Peck. Treasurer, J. Vincent Alexander.

Elected March 6, 1908—President, Edward G. Miner. Vice-President, Richard H. Lansing. Corresponding Secretary, Nathaniel S. Olds. Recording Secretary, William F. Peck. Treasurer, J. Vincent Alexander.

Note:—February 27, 1909, Joseph B. Bloss was elected Recording Secretary to fill the vacancy caused by the death of William F. Peck.

Elected March 2, 1909—President, Edward G. Miner. Vice-President, Richard H. Lansing. Corresponding Secretary, Nathaniel S. Olds. Recording Secretary, Joseph B. Bloss. Treasurer, J. Vincent Alexander.

Board Continued. 1910—President, Edward G. Miner. Vice-President, Richard H. Lansing. Corresponding Secretary, Nathaniel S. Olds. Recording Secretary, Joseph B. Bloss. Treasurer, J. Vincent Alexander.

Board Continued, 1911—President, Edward G. Miner. Vice-President, Richard H. Lansing. Corresponding Secretary, Nathaniel S. Olds. Recording Secretary, Joseph B. Bloss. Treasurer, J. Vincent Alexander.

Board Continued, 1912—President, Edward G. Miner. Vice-President, Richard H. Lansing. Corresponding Secretary, Nathaniel S. Olds. Recording Secretary, Joseph B. Bloss. Treasurer, J. Vincent Alexander.

Note:—Mrs. Esther Chapin Marsh resigned from the position of Librarian and Custodian, September 1, 1912, and Robert T. Webster was appointed to fill the vacancy.

Note:—Joseph B. Bloss resigned from the office of Recording Secretary, September 23, 1912, and Edward R. Foreman was elected to fill the vacancy.

Elected March 27, 1913—President, Charles F. Pond. Vice-President, Richard H. Lansing. Corresponding Secretary, None Elected. Recording Secretary, Edward R. Foreman. Treasurer, J. Vincent Alexander.

Elected April 27, 1914—President, Edward R. Foreman. Vice-President, Harvey F. Remington. Corresponding Secre-

tary, Raymond G. Dann. Recording Secretary, William F. Yust. Treasurer, J. Vincent Alexander.

Note:—June 22, 1914, Edward D. Putnam was appointed Curator and Librarian to fill the vacaney caused by the resignation of Robert T. Webster.

Special Note:—On June 25, 1914, Mrs. Caroline E. Perkins was elected to be the Honorary President of the Society during her lifetime; and as such to be at all times, ex-officio, a member of the Board of Managers. Mrs. Perkins died March 21, 1919.

Elected March 22, 1915—President, Edward R. Foreman. Vice-President, Harvey F. Remington. Recording Secretary, William F. Yust. Corresponding Secretary, J. Vincent Alexander. Treasurer, Raymond G. Dann.

Elected March 27, 1916—President, Edward R. Foreman. Vice-President, Harvey F. Remington. Recording Secretary, William F. Yust. Corresponding Secretary, J. Vincent Alexander. Treasurer, Raymond G. Dann.

Elected March 31, 1917—President, Edward R. Foreman. Vice-President, Harvey F. Remington. Recording Secretary, William F. Yust. Corresponding Secretary, J. Vincent Alexander. Treasurer, Raymond G. Dann.

Elected April 26, 1918—President, Edward R. Foreman. Vice-President, Harvey F. Remington. Recording Secretary, William F. Yust. Corresponding Secretary, J. Vincent Alexander. Treasurer, Raymond G. Dann.

Note:—Edward R. Foreman resigned as President, December 14, 1918, having entered Y. M. C. A. war work, and was succeeded by Judge Harvey F. Remington.

Elected March 11, 1919—President, Harvey F. Remington. Vice-President, Charles H. Wiltsie. Recording Secretary, William F. Yust. Corresponding Secretary, J. Vincent Alexander. Treasurer, Raymond G. Dann.

Elected March 11, 1920—President, Harvey F. Remington. First Vice-President, Charles H. Wiltsie. Second Vice-President, Mrs. Anah B. Yates. Recording Secretary, William F. Yust. Corresponding Secretary, J. Vincent Alexander. Treasurer, Raymond G. Dann.

Elected March 29, 1921—President, Harvey F. Remington. First Vice-President, Charles H. Wiltsie. Second Vice-President, Mrs. Anah B. Yates. Recording Secretary, William F. Yust. Corresponding Secretary, J. Vincent Alexander. Treasurer, Raymond G. Dann.

Note:—Judge Harvey F. Remington resigned as President, October 11, 1921, and was succeeded by Charles H. Wiltsie.

Elected April 24, 1922—President, Charles H. Wiltsie. First Vice-President, Edward R. Foreman. Second Vice-President, Mrs. Anah B. Yates. Recording Secretary, William F. Yust. Corresponding Secretary, J. Vincent Alexander. Treasurer, Raymond G. Dann.

**MANAGERS OF THE ROCHESTER  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
SINCE ORGANIZATION**



# Managers of The Rochester Historical Society Since Organization

As originally adopted, the Constitution of The Rochester Historical Society provided for a Board of Managers consisting of seven persons, other than the officers, to be appointed annually by the President, to manage the affairs of the Society. By revision, adopted May 12, 1893, the Board of Managers was declared to be constituted of seven persons, four officers of the Society (President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer) and three other members of the Society, to be elected annually, by the Society, upon the nomination of the President. By revision, adopted March 13, 1905, the Board of Managers was increased to nine members, five officers (President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer) and four other members of the Society, to be appointed annually by the President.

On February 28, 1919, the number was raised from nine to eleven members, the five officers, four other members to be appointed annually by the President, and the last two retiring Presidents ex-officio. On March 11, 1920, it was increased to twelve by the addition of a Second Vice-President, making six elected officers, four other members appointed by the President, and the last two Presidents ex-officio.

The Board of Managers as originally constituted was continued until vacancies were created by death or resignation of the members. Subsequent appointments to the Board, as recorded in the Minutes of the Society, appear below, this list including only members other than officers. The names of Officer-Managers can be found in the list of officers.

1888—March 3. The first Board of Managers appointed by President Edward Mott Moore, Sr., was as follows: Henry E. Rochester, Mortimer F. Reynolds, Hiram Sibley, George E. Mumford, James L. Angle, F. A. Whittlesey, W. C. Morey.

1889—November 9. Charles E. Fitch and Sylvanus A.

Ellis, were appointed to fill vacancies caused by the deaths of Hiram Sibley and Henry E. Rochester.

1890—May 9. Appointed by President Augustus H. Strong, John H. Rochester, to fill a vacancy.

1891—April 10. Existing Board reappointed by President James Lansing Angle.

1892—February 12. Appointed by President Augustus H. Strong Dr. E. V. Stoddard and George Moss, to fill vacancies occasioned by the deaths of Judge James L. Angle and George E. Mumford.

1892—May 13. Appointed by President Charles E. Fiteh, Frank W. Elwood, to fill a vacancy.

1892—November 11. Appointed by President Charles E. Fitch, Howard L. Osgood, to succeed Mortimer F. Reynolds, deceased.

1893—April 20. Appointed by President Charles E. Fiteh, William C. Morey, John H. Rochester, S. A. Ellis, George Moss, Howard L. Osgood, Frank W. Elwood, Enoch V. Stoddard.

1894—April 13. Nominated by President John H. Rochester, and elected by the Society: Charles E. Fiteh, Sylvanus A. Ellis, Howard L. Osgood.

1896—March 13. Nominated by President George M. Elwood, and elected by the Society: Porter Farley, Ezra R. Andrews, Clinton Rogers.

1897—March 12. Nominated by President George M. Elwood and elected by the Society: Clinton Rogers, Porter Farley, Ezra R. Andrews.

1898—March 14. Nominated by President Porter Farley, and elected by the Society: Ezra R. Andrews, Clinton Rogers, Howard L. Osgood.

1899—March 13. Nominated by President Porter Farley, and elected by the Society: Howard L. Osgood, Clinton Rogers, George P. Humphrey.

1900—November 12. Nominated by President Adelbert Cronise, and elected by the Society: Clinton Rogers, Charles P. Ford, George P. Humphrey.

1901—May 13. Nominated by President Adelbert Cronise,

and elected by the Society: Clinton Rogers, Charles P. Ford, George P. Humphrey.

1902—May 12. Nominated by President E. H. Howard, and elected by the Society: George P. Humphrey, Charles P. Ford, Lauriston L. Stone.

1903—No change.

1904—March 26. Appointed by President William H. Samson: Harold C. Kimball, Charles W. Dodge, Porter Farley, Adelbert Cronise, Lauriston L. Stone.

1904—July 1. Appointed by President William H. Samson: Richard H. Lansing to take the place of Adelbert Cronise, resigned.

1905—March 18. Appointed by President William H. Samson: Porter Farley, Harold C. Kimball, Charles Wright Dodge, Richard H. Lansing.

1906—March 31. Appointed by President Clinton Rogers: William H. Samson, R. H. Lansing, R. T. Webster, W. C. Edwards.

1908—March 6. Appointed by President Edward G. Miner, Jr.: William H. Samson, Wheelock Rider, Robert T. Webster, Willis K. Gillette.

1909—No change.

1910—No change.

1911—October 2. Appointed by President Edward G. Miner, Jr.: C. Walter Smith, Elmer Adler, Charles F. Pond, Willis K. Gillette.

1912—No change.

1913—No change.

1914—May 12. Appointed by President Edward R. Foreman: Elmer Adler, Alvin H. Dewey, William J. Simpson, Charles H. Wiltsie.

1915—April 15. Reappointed by President Edward R. Foreman: Elmer Adler, Alvin H. Dewey, William J. Simpson, Charles H. Wiltsie.

1916—March 24. Appointed by President Edward R. Foreman: William Herbert Wall to fill vacancy caused by resignation of Elmer Adler.

1916—May 8. Reappointed by President Edward R.

Foreman: Alvin H. Dewey, William J. Simpson, William Herbert Wall, Charles H. Wiltsie.

1917—Reappointed by President Edward R. Foreman: Alvin H. Dewey, Charles H. Wiltsie, Mrs. H. B. Dow, and Edmund Ocumpaugh 2nd, the latter two replacing W. J. Simpson and William Herbert Wall, resigned.

1918.—Reappointed by President Edward R. Foreman: Alvin H. Dewey, Charles H. Wiltsie, Mrs. H. B. Dow, and Edmund Ocumpaugh 2nd.

1919—Appointed by President Harvey F. Remington; Edward J. Seeber, Mrs. Anah B. Yates, C. W. Smith, Laurence B. Packard, and Ex-Presidents Charles F. Pond and Edward R. Foreman.

1920—Appointed by President Harvey F. Remington: Edward J. Seeber, Laurence B. Packard, Theodore A. Miller, William M. Brown, and Ex-Presidents Charles F. Pond and Edward R. Foreman.

1921—Appointed by President Harvey T. Remington: William M. Brown, Edward J. Seeber, Guy V. Aldrich, Raymond H. Arnot and Ex-Presidents Charles F. Pond and Edward R. Foreman.

1922—Appointed by President Charles H. Wiltsie: William M. Brown, William B. Boothby, Raymond H. Arnot, Edward J. Seeber, and Ex-President Harvey F. Remington. The other Ex-President, Edward R. Foreman, elected First Vice-President.

# **CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE ROCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



# Constitution and By-Laws of The Rochester Historical Society

1. This Society shall be called "The Rochester Historical Society."

2. The object of the Society shall be to obtain and preserve all relics and documents relating to the early history of the City of Rochester and the adjacent country, to secure the composition and reading of papers relating to the same, and preservation thereof, and to promote interest in the early history of Rochester.

3. Active members shall reside within the County of Monroe, New York.

Persons who have conspicuously served the Society or who have otherwise done important historical work may be elected honorary members.

Corresponding members may be elected from non-residents of the County of Monroe who desire to promote the interests of the Society.

Honorary and corresponding members shall not be eligible to office, nor be qualified to vote, nor be entitled to any share in the ownership of property of the Society, nor be liable for any dues or for any debts.

4. The officers of the Society shall consist of a President, a First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary and a Treasurer. These officers shall be elected annually and by ballot by the Society, and shall continue in office until their successors are elected. Vacancies in office may be filled by election at any regular meeting of the Society.—(As amended, February 12, 1920.)

5. There shall be a Board of Managers which shall consist of the president, vice-presidents, treasurer, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, together with four other members to be appointed annually by the president. And in addition to the Board so constituted the last two retiring presi-

dents shall be members, ex-officio, of the said Board of Managers. The duties of the Board shall be to conduct the business affairs of the Society.—(As amended, February 19, 1919.)

6. The President shall appoint annually from the Board of Managers an Executive Committee, consisting of the Treasurer, ex-officio, and two other members, which committee shall have charge of the finances of the Society. No debts shall be contracted by any officer or member of said Society except upon the recommendation of said committee, nor shall any bill be paid unless it bears the approving signatures of at least two members of said committee, and this committee shall regulate the dues, expenses and disbursements of said Society and may at its discretion compromise arrearages or remit dues of members for just cause.

Upon this Executive Committee shall also devolve the administration of the ordinary affairs of the Society, subject to the authority of the Board of Managers, and such other duties as the President may determine.—(As amended, January 29, 1919.)

7. The President shall appoint annually from the members of the Board of Managers, a Library Committee, a Committee on Papers, a Committee on Entertainment, and such other standing committees as the needs and interests of the Society may seem to indicate.

8. The Library Committee shall consist of three members, which committee shall have the custody of the library and historical collections, including all books, manuscripts, papers, pictures, documents, relics, coins and maps, and shall have charge of the sale of duplicates, subject to the direction and approval of the Board of Managers. And the said Library Committee shall be empowered to employ a Librarian or other assistants at such compensation as the Board of Managers shall sanction and direct.

It shall be the duty of such Librarian to attend and keep the library and collections of the Society open at such times and seasons as the library committee shall direct, to prepare and keep up a suitable catalogue of the library and other collections, and to keep a record of the donation and purchase of

such books, manuscripts, pamphlets, papers and historical material as may be or become the property of the Society, and to perform such other duties, clerical or otherwise, as the Library Committee may direct. The said Library Committee may, at its discretion and with the approval of the Board of Managers, divide the duties of Librarian, as above defined, and appoint a Curator who shall have charge of the archaeological and historical collections of the Society, other than the library.

It shall be the duty of the Library Committee to have charge of the publication and distribution of such papers, proceedings and collections of the Society as they may select, subject to the approval of the Board of Managers.—(As amended, December 12, 1921.)

9. The Committee on Papers shall consist of three members of the board and shall have charge of soliciting and providing for the reading of papers to be read before the Society.

10. The Committee on Entertainment shall have charge of providing for the matter of the luncheons at the regular meetings of the Society.

11. Active members shall be admitted to the Society only upon the nomination of two or more members of the Society and shall be elected by a majority vote, by ballot, of the members present at any meeting of the Board of Managers.

12. The annual dues of active members shall be three dollars. Any person elected to membership shall make the first payment of said dues within sixty days after notice of his election or, on failure to do so, may be deemed to have declined membership. Members failing to pay annual dues, may, at the discretion of the finance committee, be dropped from the roll of membership.—(As amended, November 4, 1922.)

13. The payment of \$500.00 by any person at one time and for that purpose shall constitute the donor a Life Patron. The payment by any active member of the sum of \$100.00 at one time and for that purpose shall constitute the donor a Life Member. The payment by any active member of the sum of \$10.00 annually shall constitute the donor a Publication Patron during the period such payments are continued.

All sums received from Life Patrons and Life Members shall constitute a perpetual Endowment Fund, which fund shall also include special gifts or bequests for such purpose, or any sums which may be set aside by the Board of Managers. The principal of said Endowment Fund shall remain inviolate, not to be expended for any current expenses whatever, but the income thereof shall be subject to the control of the Board of Managers. The Treasurer shall invest and re-invest the principal of said Fund in such interest-bearing securities as the Board of Managers may direct, and he shall deposit the income from such principal in the general treasury of the Society. All securities constituting the Endowment Fund shall be deposited in a safe deposit box in a safe deposit vault approved by the Board of Managers, and access to such safe deposit box shall be had only when there are present any two of the following officers: the Treasurer, the President or the first Vice-President.

All sums received from Publication Patrons, or which shall be received as gifts or bequests for such purpose, or which shall be appropriated therefor by the Board of Managers from the general treasury of the Society, shall constitute a Publication Fund, which Fund shall be kept by the Treasurer as a separate account in the regular depository bank of the Society, to be disbursed solely for the publication and distribution of the papers, proceedings and collections of the Society, upon the approval of the Board of Managers; and the said publications shall be distributed to Publication Patrons only, or to the members of the Society and the public generally, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Managers may specially direct in every case as it arises. (As amended, December 12, 1921.)

14. The annual meeting for the election of officers shall be held on the second Monday in March in each year. If the election shall not be held on that day, it shall be held at the next regular meeting of the Society, at which the election of officers is moved. Twenty active members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business and at meet-

ings of the board of managers a majority of that board shall constitute a quorum.

15. The regular meetings of the Society shall be held on the second Monday in each month from October to May, inclusive; but any of these meetings, except the annual meeting prescribed by the last section, may be omitted by order of the board of managers. Notice of meetings shall be given to the resident members by mail or by publication thereof in at least two of the Rochester daily papers. Any meeting may be adjourned to such time and place as a majority of the members present shall determine.

16. Special meetings of the Society may be called by the President or Recording Secretary at any time and it shall be the duty of the President or Recording Secretary to call a special meeting at any time upon a request, in writing, signed by three or more active members of the Society. Meetings of the Board of Managers may be called at any time by the President, Vice-President or Recording Secretary.

17. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and of the Managers, and shall perform the duties usually appertaining to the office of President.

18. The Vice-President shall discharge all the duties of the President in case of the absence or incapacity of the latter.

19. The Recording Seeretary shall have the custody of the reecords and of the seal of the Society. He shall give due notice of each of the meetings and shall keep records of the meetings of the Society and of the Managers.

20. The Corresponding Secretary shall have the custody of all letters and communications to the Society, shall read to the Soeity all communiciations received as such Secretary, and under the direction of the Society or of the Managers shall prepare all communieations in the name of the Society and shall keep true copies of the same.

21. The Treasurer shall perform all of the duties usually appertaining to that office; shall deposit the funds of the Soeity in such bank as the Board of Managers shall designate, shall pay out the funds as the Board of Managers shall direct, and shall keep an account of the funds and render an annual

statement thereof to the Society and also whenever required by the Board of Managers.

22. The constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the active members present at any regular meeting of the Society, provided that notice of the proposed amendment be given at a previous meeting and that the same shall have been approved by the board of managers prior to such vote.

23. A member may be expelled by a two-thirds vote at any meeting upon the recommendation of the Board of Managers.

24. The order of business at any meeting of the Society shall be as follows, subject to change by a majority vote at such meeting.

1. Reading of minutes of previous meeting and approval of same.
2. Communications from the president, board of managers or officers.
3. Election of officers.
4. Reports of standing or special committees.
5. Unfinished business.
6. Miscellaneous business.
7. Reading of papers.
8. Discussion of papers.

Note:—Constitution first adopted March 3, 1888. By-Laws first adopted April 6, 1888. Both appear in "Vol. I, Publications of The Rochester Historical Society," 1892. Constitution and By-Laws revised and consolidated, May 12, 1893; published November 1, 1893; again published, as amended, May, 1901. Revision adopted, March 13, 1905; published December, 1905; published, Handbook, 1916; published Handbook, 1921. Consolidated Constitution and By-Laws last amended November 4, 1922, as published above.

**GLEANINGS FROM THE MINUTES  
OF THE ROCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



# Gleanings from the Minutes

*By* WILLIAM F. YUST

Note: The first publication of The Rochester Historical Society contained a digest of the Secretary's minutes from organization (1888) to the date of publication (1892).

Below appear a few items of interest gleaned from the minutes during the thirty years which have passed since 1892:

1893, January 31—Fund of \$1,906.55 raised by four entertainments. \$1,500 deposited in bank as a special fund of which income only was to be used. This income was on March 1, 1907, designated as a library fund.

1894, April 12—Purchase of part of the George H. Harris collection of Indian relics for \$500, withdrawn from special fund.

1895, November 8—First meeting in new quarters in Reynolds Library.

1896, January 10—Portraits of pioneers of Monroe County presented to Society by County Supervisors.

1908, December 6—Death of William F. Peck, for 20 years Recording Secretary.

1911, August 30—Purchase of part of the William H. Samson library collection for \$800 with balance of special fund.

1912, September 13—Opening exercises in present quarters in library and museum building at Exposition Park. (Now Edgerton Park).

1914, January 19—First general meeting of the Society for the reading of papers in five years. Report of reorganization committee adopted.

1914, May 12—Membership campaign initiated, resulting in 418 new members.

1914, June 25—Mrs. Caroline E. Perkins elected Life Honorary President.

1914, August 28—New certificate of membership, seal and bookplate of the Society, designed by Claude Bragdon and adopted.

1915, March 22—John Sylvester Wilson, oldest living

pioneer resident, age 100 years, was present at a meeting while his reminiscences of Rochester were read.

1915, April 15—Report on revision of membership list showing 845 active members.

1916, May 26—Reading of prize essays by University of Rochester students. Two prizes of \$40 each given by the Society.

1916, October 21—New Handbook issued.

1916, November 27—Joint meeting of six local societies. Similar meetings have been held from year to year.

1916, October 21—Genesee Country Historical Federation proposed; organized at Canandaigua, June 29, 1917.

1918, June, Publication of Dr. Rossiter Johnson's address, "The Grandest Playground in the World."

1919, March 1—Compilation of World War records begun by Treasurer.

1919, March 21—Death of Life Honorary President, Mrs. Gilman H. Perkins.

Bequest of \$1,000 and historical material from Mrs. Perkins to the Society.

1921, January—New Handbook issued.

1921, December 12—Establishment of Publication Fund.

1922, January 1—Preparation of World War Service Record taken over by City under Board of Trustees of Public Library. Division of History.

1922, April—Publication of Ward-Strong Memorial Volume.

1922, June 18—Death of Life Honorary President, Hiram H. Edgerton.

1922, December—Volume One of Publication Fund Series issued.

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Note. Refresh your recollection with this brief summary of facts in regard to the Genesee Country: At the close of the Revolution, 1783, King George III relinquished to America all his claim to this territory; it was then a wilderness inhabited by Indians; the state

of New York asserted right of sovereignty; Massachusetts resisted the claim upon ground of prior title under charter of King James to Plymouth, 1620; this dispute was settled by treaty of Hartford, 1786, when Massachusetts relinquished sovereignty to New York but retained preemption rights or right to purchase of Indians; April, 1788, Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham bought the entire territory from Massachusetts and extinguished the Indian title in part by treaty of Buffalo; later they were released from the contract as to the lands west of the Genesee and the Mill lot; subsequently Robert Morris bought the whole unsettled territory east and west of the Genesee, extinguished the Indian title, except as to reservations, by treaty at Big Tree, and sold the west to the Holland Land Company, and the east to the estate of Sir William Pultney. The first land office in America was opened at Canandaigua in 1789 by Phelps & Gorham. Settlement followed east and west of the Genesee and our modern history began.

**GENESEE COUNTRY HISTORICAL FEDERATION:**  
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Note. The purposes of the Genesee Country Historical Federation are stated in the following paragraph from its constitution:

"The object of this Federation shall be to bring into close relationship all the historical societies of the Genesee Country which comprises that part of New York State lying west of a meridian drawn through Seneca Lake; to coordinate the efforts of these societies, and to promote that helpful unity of spirit which will bring strength to all and increase our capacity for public service; to establish a Central Council made up of representatives of such societies; to hold joint meetings; to encourage historical study to the end that the historic understanding of the residents of this region may be aroused; to promote the collection and preservation of relics, books, pictures and documents relating to the Genesee Country by the various societies; to mark historic sites; to urge our societies to maintain lecture courses upon historic subjects, and to publish historical material; through the Central Council to establish a clearing house of information as to what our societies are doing; cordially to support the New York State Historical Association; to aid in founding historical societies throughout the district where needed; and to devote the united strength of our organization to the government in any capacity, where the agency of such Federation or any of its societies can be made effective."

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